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ARBATOV, BOVIN CHERVOV INTERVIEWED ON ARMS ISSUES

LD220112 Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1905 GMT 21 Apr 83

[From the "Panorama" program: Interview given by Director of the USA and Canada Institute Georgiy Arbatov, Colonel General Nikolay Chervov and IZVESTIYA political observer Aleksandr Bovin to correspondent Peter Horvath in Moscow; answers given in Russian with superimposed Hungarian translation; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] If one listens to President Reagan's latest statements, one notes that he really does not want an agreement with the USSR. Professor Arbatov, in your opinion, is it impossible that Washington will ever accept a realistic, rational compromise?

[Arbatov] In my view, during the 2 plus years that the current administration has been in power, its political urges, intentions, will and what this administration sees as its own tasks have become quite clear. I think that one can draw the conclusion that an agreement with the USSR plays no part in its plans and concepts. Disarmament finds no place in its intentions either. This administration came on the scene with the intention not of disarmament but of armament. Therefore, this administration can only do something different under pressure. What pressure? Under the pressure of economic, political and objective factors, and the pressure from its own public opinion and its allies. If this pressure is very strong, I cannot exclude the possibility that the administration will submit more rational proposals. If there is no such pressure, the administration will do what it likes. There will be no proposal and no agreement.

[Question] The American plan to make use of outer space, apart from the existing military bases on earth, for the development of an antimissile system looks like a new feature. In your opinion, what could have moved Washington to do this?

[Arbatov] Look, what can there be behind this? It is possible that the President does not even understand this. On the whole, one has the feeling that history, certain important periods of history, have passed him by without affecting him. He was obviously somewhere far away at those times, on his ranch; he forgot that at the end of the sixties, at the start of the seventies, there already was a debate about antimissile defense and that everything had already been said on this matter: This system is not a defensive weapon but is closely linked to offensive weapons; if one side can shoot down the other side's missiles, we will all begin today to start building on deterrence, on the threat of a retaliatory strike. If the earlier situation thus comes to an end and missile defense comes along, this is nothing other than an attempt to be able to fight a nuclear war with impunity. However, all of this, it seems, has not reached the President. The debate on this has started again in America and the President has explained all this. Look, in may opinion, imagination also plays a part in this, but this fantasizing is dangerous.

[Question] I wonder whether the Reagan-style policy is a long-term policy or merely a temporary phenomenon?

[Arbatov] You know, Reagan's policy certainly reflects a kind of trend. We identify it as a trend that has always been, is and will continue to be present in American policy. It existed in 1972, '73, '75 and so on. It is an unparalleled reactionary and conservative trend. This line wants to take economic policy back into the 19th century or to the twenties and foreign policy into the fifties and sixties. It has always existed. As to when it became prevalent again, that is naturally hard to say.

It is connected with certain circumstances. I think that there is no alternative for us. Any any rate, we must proceed on the road of peaceful coexistence, on the road of arms limitation, because there is one different alternative to this: catastrophe.

[Question] It is a pronounced political conception that socialism must be drained of blood through economic restrictions. Is there a real basis for this?

[Arbatov] We have heard this several times. We have become accustomed to this kind of forecast. I would say that in America, a certain sobering process has recently started. I do not want to say that there are no economic problems. Other socialist countries also have them. Some of them have serious problems. However, recent American reports approach this question more sensibly. First of all, these problems do not mean a state of crisis. On the other hand, these are problems that can be connected with rather normal circumstances, problems that can be solved and will be solved in the process of normal work. By the way, an article by the well-known American economist, (Turor), was recently published. He states quite correctly that the West has the same problems as the socialist countries' economies. Their solution causes great difficulties for the West too. I do not know. Nobody can exchange his problems. Experiences can be exchanged with the other side, but I would say whoever lives in a glass house should not throw stones. It is, of course, a different question because every socialist country has great economic tasks; we have serious responsibilities and a lot to do.

[Question] Aleksandr Bovin, politician of international standing, journalist, member of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Republic and senior member of IZVESTIYA. Can we still speak of so-called detente? Or in other words, is a return to detente still possible?

[Bovin] This is very difficult now. It is my conviction that this is practically impossible while Reagan's people sit in the White House. I understand that my government looks at this question more optimistically as far as it is possible. By the way, any other government would do the same. However, in this case, as a journalist, I can afford to be pessimistic.

[Question] That means, for example, that while Reagan occupies the presidency, it is better to postpone the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles? Is is better not to have talks at all?

[Bovin] No, not at all. They should not be postponed. They have to be continued, as well as other possible talks. The whole spectrum of all existing problems has to be discussed. In essence, it is possible that we can agree on certain partial questions, on secondary questions. However, if we take the global East-West problem, the question of disarmament or the limitation of strategic arms, then -- I repeat -- there are not many opportunities while the present group is in Washington; especially if you take into account Reagan's latest statement, where he appears not as a politician but as a theologian. He appears as a theologian because he says: The absolute wrong exists -- the Soviet Union, the empire of sin, the embodiment of all evil; the West on the other hand represents virtue itself. The question arises whether detente is at all possible between God and Satan. Of course it is impossible. If you put the question like this, the theoretically possible compromise is excluded. In order to compromise, we must move from the metaphysics of absolute good and evil to the ground of political realities. This is, of course, relative. There will always be competition with Reagan or without Reagan. There will always be competition between West and East. However, it is necessary to direct this competition into the direction of mutual interests by the use of compromises.

[Question] The Rogers program exists, the plan for the development of traditional arms. What is your opinion of this?

[Bovin] You know, I cannot really speak about this. I have the rank of a lieutenant and I can think only in terms of a company.

[Question] I am just a common soldier.

[Bovin] I can think only in these terms: I am trained only for this.

[Question] Well, lieutenant or private, let us now turn to a general. The answers are being given by Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, an officer of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces.

[Chervov] General Rogers claims that the establishment of such a conventional reconnaissance-strike weapon [as heard] and the ammunition needed for it requires very little. It would cost each citizen of every NATO member-country DM40 per annum. Or, as he puts it, the cost of two inexpensive meals a year for everyone. However, very dangerous plans lie concealed behind these inexpensive meals. These plans are dangerous because with weapons of this kind in their hands, they may have the opportunity -- indeed, the opportunity and risk arise -- to launch a nonnuclear war, which can bring about devastating results similar to those of a nuclear war. A war lasting a month in Europe could have losses and destruction on a scale identical to nuclear weapons when ammunition of this kind is used [not further identified].

[Question] In your view, does President Reagan's star wars plan change the USSR's strategy for the next 20 years?

[Chervov] Let me just tell you that this is no mere flight of fancy. Some people are attempting to claim these days that these star wars are just a fantasy and represent no practical danger. There is no question of this being true. Technical development is of such a nature these days that these concepts -- while irresponsible and dangerous thoughts on the part of the American Administration -- are still close to reality. Regarding vulnerability, it is difficult to assess the situation for the time being. It is hard to assess the vulnerability of the system. All I want to say is that every action brings about a counterreaction. We will not remain unarmed. The antimissile defense system devised by them can be vulnerable: Indeed, it may even be possible to break through. I do not believe that it is fully realistic to think that an absolute secure shield can be established.

[Question] Since this system is built on the maximum level of precision, is it possible that if any of the links in the system is damaged....

[Chervov] Yes, that, too, is possible. That can also lead straight away to the weakening of the system. Even if it does not immediately destroy the entire protective system, it will certainly be able to disrupt its individual units.

[Question] Regarding the deployment of Pershings and cruise missiles: If this is to take place at the end of the year -- as, indeed, a series of announcements have been made to that effect -- the USSR cannot remain indifferent to it. However, in your view, what concrete steps are conceivable?

[Chervov] What concrete measures are to be taken if the American side does actually deploy its missiles? Well, this will be announced at the appropriate forum in good time.

[Question] There is talk these days about missiles to be deployed on submarines or on surface ships. Even Nicaragua's territory has been mentioned.

[Chervov] Regarding ships, that is possible. However, with reference to the territory of a third country, this need not necessarily be the case. Not necessarily. There is also talk about Cuba and Nicaragua, but these countries are mentioned with a provocative aim in mind.

[Question] Many different kinds of pressure are being exerted on the White House. What sort of pressure can the NATO allies put on Reagan?

[Chervov] They have attempted to restrain Reagan in some way. Indeed, the issues of the sanctions and the gas pipeline have shown that on occasion they can successfully moderate him. Yet, if we examine the problem in its entirety, we can see that Reagan is carrying on with his own policy in spite of the fact that his allies are often dissatisfied with Reagan's measures -- indeed, sometimes we can even speak in terms of confrontation between them and Reagan -- and in spite of the fact that the voice of those who take a stand against the current policy is strong even within America. On occasion, he modifies issues of tactical detail and may adopt a different attitude. Nevertheless, when we speak of strategy, this strategy is still based on the policy of strength and on pressure exerted on the USSR.

[Question] Do you expect a change in the Kohl government's policy toward the East, with reference to the so-called Ostpolitik?

[Chervov] No, In my view, this policy is presently determined not so much by who is in power in Bonn, but far more by West Germany's real geopolitical position. There will undoubtedly be minor changes but, fundamentally, this government will also continue the Ostpolitik. It cannot have another policy.

[Question] Because this policy is, surely, determined by economic interests?

[Chervov] Yes, partly by economic interests, but there are also important political factors. After all, West Germany is still concerned with the long-term perspective of a future unified Germany. This problem, from whichever direction we are approaching it, cannot be solved without maintaining good relations with the USSR. True, this problem is just like the squaring of the circle. It will not be solved in the way envisaged in West Germany. However, since they are thinking about this problem, they cannot do this without having good relations with the USSR.

[Question] Mitterrand's government deals with the socialist countries and the USSR in a far more negative way than the previous Giscard government. What do you see as the reason for this change?

[Chervov] We may speak about several reasons, quite clearly, on this issue. First, Mitterrand's politics are far more ideological than Giscard d'Estaing's were. The anticommunist ingredient of this ideology was already present in the program of the French Socialist Party.

[Question] I beg your pardon for interrupting but, surely, the Communists also participate in the present government while they were not represented in the conservatives' government.

[Chervov] I will deal with this in a minute. So, the first reason for this is the program with its ideological orientation and nature. The second aspect of it is Mitterrand's own personality -- if I may say so, he has not always bestowed his affection on the socialist countries. The third aspect -- and I do not know to what extent it is serious, but it is a very interesting thing -- deals with this:

When I visited Paris, I asked the French why this situation exists. They answered [word indistinct]: We in France want to realize a socialist plan: However, we understand that the international bourgeoisie, if it wants to, can easily gain the upper hand and ruin our expectations. Therefore, if we are to carry out the plan, we must have good relations with the Western world, first and foremost, with the United States. This is the way in which we can create the foreign political conditions to ensure that we may realize the socialist program in France.

I do not know if this can be taken seriously; sometimes I think that it cannot. All the same, this is what was said in France. Regarding the Communists, well, this is a rather sensitive question and, no doubt, you also think so. All the same, a situation has developed in which the Communists who are members of the government do not have a determining role in the government's policies. They most follow the direction laid down primarily by Mitterrand together with his colleagues in the Socialist Party.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR ZHURKIN INTERVIEWED ON ARMS TALKS

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[From the "Background Conversation" program presented by Eva Vertes: Interview with Dr Vitaliy Zhurkin, deputy director of the U.S. and Canada Research Instiutte, by Ilona Baranyai; Zhurkin comments in Russian with superimposed Hungarian translation; date not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] Vitaliy Vladimirovich, how do you assess the prospects of the Geneva talks after the U.S. President's proposal for an intermediate solution? Do you consider it conceivable that on the basis of this the Geneva talks, which are marking time, will progress?

[Answer] In my opinion President Reagan's so-called intermediate proposal does not and cannot serve as a basis for us to attempt to seek a compromise solution. There are many reasons for this and I am obliged to report certain things, because a great deal has already been said and written about this. This proposal is not satisfactory because it is an intermediate solution leading to the zero option which is unacceptable to the USSR, and because it gives the United States the opportunity to deploy new medium-range missiles in Western Europe in the immediate proximity of the USSR. In addition to this, from our point of view, it upsets the nuclear balance of power in Europe. Another reason I believe the intermediate solution is unsatisfactory is because it does not take into account the nuclear forces if the U.S. allies, in Britain and France, while in the Warsaw Pact there is only one nuclear power -- the USSR. In my opinion the intermediate solution has in addition a string of other elements, too, that are not satisfactory, first of all the fact that it does not close but in fact opens up the way for the deployment of new U.S. missiles and with this it creates a basically new strategic, political and military situation in Europe. This is an incorrect approach. In my estimation, the USSR cannot give its blessing to the deployment of a single U.S. missile, but especially not to the quantity of arms that President Reagan imagines in accordance with the intermediate proposal.

[Question] In Washington they often say that the British and French missiles do not represent a large force; thus they are simply nor worth considering when it is a question of the balance of power. How large a force do these national nuclear weapons represent in reality?

[Answer] Naturally, the British and French nuclear forces are considerably smaller than the U.S. or Soviet, it is true.

Nobody is debating that. But if we look away from the global dimensions, when we are talking about thousands of warheads and examining the European situation, in which each side has some 1,000 nuclear carrier weapons, then these British and French forces are no longer so insignificant. The 162 missiles and the nearly 100 aircraft become a considerable element if we count that these constitute roughly one-fourth of NATO's carrier weapons, to say nothing of the fact that the British and French nuclear forces are now being modernized. It is true that at present they are in the first phase of modernization, but in the eighties the old missiles in both countries will be replaced by a new generation, with separate warheads for independent targeting. One can of course argue about the numbers, but by the end of the eighties the British and French nuclear forces will grow to several times their present size, especially with the introduction of multiwarhead missiles.

[Question] Is the U.S. stance that at the discussions partly in the number of nuclear warheads must be achieved acceptable?

[Answer] The idea of equalizing nuclear warheads in fact does not contradict the philosophy on the basis of which we approach this issue. The USSR is not opposed to an agreement on an upper limit of nuclear warheads at the strategic arms limitation discussions. The USSR is not opposed to an agreement on an upper limit of nuclear warheads at the strategic arms limitation discussions. There is such an approach in SALT II. It has been agreed, for example, that neither side can deploy on its submarines more than 14 nuclear warheads, or at most as many as there were on a U.S. Poseidon submarine at the time of the Vienna signing of the agreement in 1979. As far as land-launched intercontinental ballistic missiles are concerned, they undertook to replace on them 10 warheads at the most, the number with which they tested the missile at the time of signing. In principle, therefore, this is possible. If we take as our basis the published writings of our military experts concerning Soviet-U.S. strategic arms, and if in Europe we count not only the missiles but also the aircraft carrying nuclear bombs, then NATO already now has a certain superiority, alongside the parity in carrier systems. In principle, therefore, one can naturally agree on the number of warheads also. The most important thing, however, is that we should considerably reduce this amount; this is the main thing. The number of carrier weapons must be reduced, and in this way the upper limit of the number of warheads must be determined.

[Question] One of the most vulnerable points of the Reagan proposal is precisely the fact that under carrier weapons they take only the missiles into account, and that he wants to remove the rest as a topic of negotiations. In your opinion, what thinking lies behind this concept?

[Answer] The Reagan administration's idea departs from the principle pursued by the former Nixon, Ford and Carter administrations, when the United States agreed with the most logical approach that in comparing nuclear forces everything must be taken into account; not a single element must be taken out. The Reagan administrationis now adopting a new, very unhealthy standpoint whereby it selects individual systems for reduction, curiously always those in which the USSR is stronger and the United States weaker. This can be felt quite clearly at the strategic arms limitation talks, where the aircraft are left out of consideration -- in this field the U.S. superiority is multiple -- and also cruise missiles -- the new dangerous element of the arms race. In Europe the same thing applies to aircraft carrying nuclear weapons. The Soviet proposal, formulated by our party's General Secretary Comrade Andropov at the end of December, says that the USSR will only keep as many weapons as those possessed by Britain and France. This is linked to the proposal that there should also be agreement on the upper limit of the number of bombers. In other words it is a question of a complex proposal, with which the USSR always approaches this topic and as the United States also did before Reagan.

[Question] In the United States it is said that West Europe does not have any missiles that can reach the USSR. However, it is not only a question of the USSR but of every member-country of the Warsaw Pact. What is your opinion of the Pershing I's in West Europe?

[Answer] First, it is true that the Americans do not have any missiles in West Europe that could reach the USSR. On the other hand, they have aircraft in Britain and in the European Continent. More than 700 planes are at issue, including those on board the six aircraft carriers constantly cruising around Europe that can fly as far as Moscow, which moreover carry nuclear weapons, as U.S. statistics state. However, there are Pershing I missiles whose range today is 700 km or somewhat more, which can reach the entire territory of Hungary, the GDR, Czechoslovakia and Poland, and can even reach Romania and Bulgaria. The Americans also have tactical, or as we say operational strategic nuclear weapons, which they call field weapons. Apart from this, also according to official U.S. data, the United States, taking together the medium- and nonmedium-range ones [as heard], has twice as many nuclear warheads on our continent as the Warsaw Pact.

Why do we not agree that the replacement of the Pershing I's with Pershing II's means the modernization of this type of weapon? Among other reasons, because the purpose for which these missiles are intended is basically changed. Formerly, part of the Warsaw Pact fell within their range; now they can reach the USSR's territory. Willy nilly -- though on this occasion rather intentionally -- they turn into strategic missiles. A certain balance of power had formerly already developed in Europe, both with regard to medium-range weapons and to conventional forces. Naturally, one side is stronger in one type of weapon and the other side is stronger in another, but the relative balance remains, and this is what the Americans now want to upset, to use for political and even for military objectives.

[Question] President Reagan says that with the zero option and with the intermediate proposal he wants to free the whole world from medium-range missiles; at the same time they want to deploy cruise missiles in Alaska and Asia.

[Answer] The Asian situation is naturally considerably different from the European one. There, just as in Europe, there exists not just one nuclear power; on the other hand, U.S. planes equipped with nuclear arms are deployed in and around Japan. It would obviously be simple to work out the balance of nuclear power in this region. Here too, as in every region of the world, one must think about the reduction of these weapons. If it were possible to agree on a reduction in Europe, then this could in part or in total serve as a model for the solution of such complex issues in other regions too. On the disarmament table in Geneva there lies a draft whose authors are a group of socialist countries, including the USSR and Hungary, which proposes that deployment of nuclear weapons be stopped, or, as we say today, that they be frozen and a phased reduction be agreed upon, right up to a complete elimination.

[Question] To return to the freeze: The Americans rejected the Soviet proposal by saying that if arms are frozen until the end of the discussions, this would mean that the USSR would retain its advantages. Is this explanation acceptable?

[Answer] Why do I not agree with this argument? First, because this argument only takes medium-range missiles into consideration and not all medium-range weapons; with regard to the entirety, a relative balance exists. Second, they argue that when NATO adopted the dual decision in 1979 the USSR acknowledged a balance, whereas later it deployed new missiles and is still speaking about the existence of a relative balance, while in fact it has upset this balance.

On such occasions, however, they leave out of consideration that we always disarmed one or two SS-4's or SS-5's when we deployed an SS-20. We have modernized, but the balance itself has not changed. The freeze would actually be useful because in this way we would in fact create psychologically more favorable conditions for an agreement.

[Question] The Americans speak a lot about the fact that they will create an antimissile and an antisatellite system, and try to prove that with this they will not violate the SALT I agreement on the limitation of strategic armaments. Can these plans for 10-20 years ahead be made consistent with the agreement made 11 years ago?

[Answer] First, the creation of any antimissile system, apart from that contained in SALT I concluded in 1972, violates the agreement. The agreement signed in 1972 has to be examined together with the protocol that was signed somewhat later, which categorically states that each country may choose one zone where it will position its antimissile systems. The U.S. experts themselves say that the administration did its homework wrong, did not study sufficiently the document that it speaks about. As far as the system itself is concerned, its plan was condemned by the USSR, but it aroused concern in Western Europe and in the United States itself, since it is essentially an attempt to try and release the spirit deliberately locked in the bottle. At the same time they also warn that it is impossible to create a completely impenetrable antimissile system; and if it can be penetrated it is no longer effective. That is why the idea is dangerous. As for the fact [words indistinct] that they might create it in 10 or 20 years, then what is the good of the Americans trying today to create the basis of a system that could bring about an unprecedentedly dangerous situation by the end of the century? One should clearly rather think about strengthening the agreements made on strategic arms limitation, to reduce levels, and not to open up a new phase in armaments with the weapons that the United States intends to make operational only in 10 or 20 years.

COMMENTARY VIEWS PARADOX OF REAGAN'S ABM PLANS

LD160121 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Excerpts] on 23 March President Reagan announced his long-term plan for the development of antiballistic missile systems in space. The militaristic nature of the plan has caused a storm of criticism and anger all over the world and yet the President and his administration insist that the plan, if realized, will make it possible to change the entire course of mankind's development for the better. More on this subject from Stanislav Kondrashov, political observer of the Soviet Government newspaper IZVESTIYA.

Paradoxically enough, he writes, President Reagan himself explained the catch in his new plan. He did this almost a month before his television statement on 23 March. Speaking to American schoolchildren on 25 February, President Reagan remarked that the United States would not have dropped the atom bomb on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasake had it known that the United States itself could expect atomic retribution. In talks with adults the American leader prefers not to use such arguments. It's easy to understand why. The President regards new antimissile systems as a guarantee against impunity for a possible first nuclear strike on the Soviet Union. The monopoly on new antimissile weapons must, in the opinion of the President, return the United States its lost monopoly on nuclear weapons.

The Reagan administration, seeking nuclear superiority, obviously hopes to bring back the days of Hiroshima and Nagasaki when the United States incinerated hundreds of thousands of Japanese without fearing any retribution. One cannot help but suggest that today the United States is preparing a similar plight for many millions of Soviet people. Is this one way of changing the course of mankind's development, as the American President sees it? The President obviously pins his hopes on the superiority of American technology which will put the United States ahead when the new antiballistic systems are developed. But these are illusory hopes, none of which materialized in the postwar period.

It's true the United States always took the lead in inventing new and more and more dangerous types of weapons. But that lead was always temporary. The Soviet Union, remembering the lessons of the Nazi surprise attack in June, 1941, always could look after its defense capability. Today, too, it will not allow an upset in the existing parity. The Soviet Union has never doubted either the technological potential of the United States or the ability of Americans to invent, but it is high time to understand and acknowledge that technical advances in the military field, armaments in particular, create problems rather than solving them.

When the prominent Soviet writer Ilya Ehrenburg visited the United States in the first postwar years he compared the country to an athlete with a small head sitting on a strong muscular body. Today muscular American technology can do much harm to peace if the policy of the current administration remains as shortsighted as it is today. It is not new super missiles that will open the road to peace but a simple, sincere willingness to achieve a political agreement. This agreement should be based not on a bid for military superiority but on the principle of equality and equal security. It is said that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. The saying comes to mind when you see that the American President links his hopes for the future of mankind with new breakthroughs in military technology.

SOVIET BOOK ON NUCLEAR ARMS RACE HISTORY REVIEWED

PM191438 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Apr 83 First Edition p 3

[Book review by Doctor of Juridical Sciences Professor P. Ushakov and Candidate of Juridical Sciences Reserve Justice Major General P. Barabolya: "Sinister Course"]

[Excerpts] An important task in the struggle against the threat of world thermonuclear war and for peace and the safeguarding of every person's most important right -- the right to life -- is the revelation of the sources, nature and dimensions of that threat. The book "Sinister Relay Race" recently published by the Political Literature Publishing House makes a contribution to resolving this task (Footnote: "Zloveshchaya Estafeta," collective of authors, Political Literature Publishing House 1982, 222 pages, price 55 kopeks). On the basis of rich factual material it shows how, through the fault of imperialism, one of the greatest achievements of intelligence -- the discovery of atomic energy, capable of bringing people untold benefits -- has become a truly apocalyptic threat.

The book's authors show and explain in detail the reasons for the U.S. ruling circles' unleashing of the nuclear arms race in the last months and years of the war and the early months and years after it. U.S. imperialism's desire for world rule, its dissatisfaction with the military-political and socioeconomic results of World War II and desire to "revise" them, the interests of the military monopolies and the Pentagon, illusions concerning America's superiority and invulnerability, ferocious anticommunism and great-power chauvinism -- all this prompted then U.S. President H. Truman and his entourage to steer a course toward breaking with the antifascist coalition and embarking on an expansionist, strong-arm, reactionary global policy.

The creation of the atom bomb at that moment was interpreted by the United States as some kind of "gift from God," sent down to finally implement the U.S. "predestination" to rule the world, intimidating and even destroying with the "utlimate weapon" all those who tried to prevent it from ruling man's destiny. It is characteristic that literally all Pentagon and CIA documents of that time admitted that the USSR, for its part, was not even thinking of attacking the United States. Nonetheless these documents persistently cited the provocative idea that the Soviet Union would allegedly become a threat to the United States and the entire "free world" in the future as its economy, science and technology were restored, and that a "preemptive strike" had to be dealt against it before it was too late, that is, before it discovered the "secrets" of atomic weapons. The book rightly stressed that the decisive reason for the failure of Washington's attempts to implement its monstrous plans for a preventive atomic war was the timely consolidation of the Soviet Union's defense might and the elimination of the U.S. atomic monopoly and other short-lived advantages. Obliged to defer or rescind individual specific plans for an atomic attack on the USSR, U.S. ruling circles at the same time never abandoned the intention of unleashing a nuclear war if they attained a substantial strategic superiority and other conditions favoring it, or the "political use" of their own growing nuclear missile potential.

Although some atomic maniacs in the United States continue to believe that they can survive and win a world thermonuclear war, for a long time now Washington has been strenuously seeking "practical" versions of nuclear war which would least affect U.S. territory itself or not affect it at all and would be "limited" in its dimensions, in terms of the weapons used and in its goals to "local" theaters of military operations -- either Europe, the Near East or the Far East. Washington has recently been really disgorging a stream of speeches devoted to military preparations, military programs, and the creation of new types of weapons. All around the USSR's perimeter many hundreds of U.S. delivery vehicles are now concentrated, capable of delivering a nuclear strike against our territory. Fulfilling the will of the monopolies and the military-industrial complex, the U.S. Government is in fact sabotaging any agreements or talks on arms limitation and disarmament and is leading its country into a new twist in the senseless and futile chase after strategic superiority over the USSR through the creation of the MX and Trident first-strike nuclear missiles, the B-1 and Stealth bombers and so forth.

U.S. imperialism's nuclear policy and strategy, which have accomplished their latest turn toward extreme adventurism and aggressiveness, have become the main reason for the serious deterioration in the international situation and the growth of the threat of war. The book cites enough convincing examples of how, each time, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and the developing countries' peoples have barred the way to U.S. imperialism's nuclear strategy aimed at preparing and unleashing a thermonuclear conflict.

The Soviet Union has tirelessly struggled and is continued to struggle for a "freeze," for the limitation and cessation of the race in the most dangerous of the modern types of mass destruction weapons -- nuclear weapons -- and for their total prohibition and for the use of atomic energy for exclusively peaceful purposes. The new proposals and initiatives of the CPSU and the Soviet state contained in the speeches by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov and other Soviet leaders are aimed at this. The Warsaw Pact states' Prague Political Declaration also serves this end.

The strength of the peoples' movement for nuclear disarmament and the power and determination of the Soviet Union and the other peace-loving, socialist states to defend peace, the authors conclude their book, must halt "the race to annihilation," stop the senseless nuclear arms race and put an end to imperialism's atomic relay race.

CEMA DELEGATE ADDRESSES GENEVA UN ECE MEETING

LD212333 Moscow TASS in English 2203 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Geneva April 21 TASS -- The session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe [ECE] is underway here. A delegation of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance takes part in it.

Speaking at the pleanry meeting, Deputy Secretary of the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance Ion Perpegel stressed that the CMEA is striving to contribute to the implementation of the provisions of the Final Act of the European conference concerning the development of mutually advantageous economic, scientific and technological cooperation among all countries of the region of the Economic Commission for Europe. In conditions of the present aggravation of the international situation it is necessary to preserve and use to the utmost the existing possibilities to continue a dialogue and create new conditions for developing in every way the economic relations among countries of the region.

The speaker noted that in 1982 CMEA countries fulfilled in the main the tasks of the second year of the current five-year period under the guidance of their communist and workers parties.

This created, specifically, favourable conditions for the widening of foreign trade. The foreign trade turnover of the CMEA member-countries on the whole and their mutual trade turnover in 1982 increased, respectively by 6.6 and 11.5 percent on the previous year. The CMEA member-countries, Perpegel said, come out for the development of commercial, economic, scientific and technological ties with those capitalist states that are prepared to cooperate on terms of equality and mutual advantage. The speaker noted it is intolerable that certain circles place all kind of obstacles in the way of normal economic, scientific and technological cooperation of countries with different social systems, use economic "sanctions" and embargoes as an instrument of politics.

The document of the CMEA Secretariat "Long-Term Purpose-Oriented Programmes of Cooperation of the CMEA Countries" and the information "On the CMEA Experience in the Sphere of Planning Multilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation in Connection With the Economic Development of the CMEA Member-Countries" were circulated among the delegations taking part in the session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

U.S. 'STONEWALLING' AT MADRID CSCE SESSION

LD212352 Moscow World Service in English 2000 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] In Madrid participants in the European Security and Cooperation Conference have resumed their meeting. Spartak Beglov of the NOVOSTI press agency offers this comment:

The Madrid meeting is in the 30th month of its work. When will it come at long last to a successful end? I think those observers are right who say when Washington stops its stonewalling. In the course of the 2-year long negotiations the Madrid [as heard] has come close to the adoption of the two decisions people have long been expecting. The first is on a conference for military relaxation and disarmament in Europe. The second is to draw up a final document mapping out further steps toward further cooperation and stronger security on the continent.

Now what hampers the American Administration's representative to say yes to the successful termination of the meeting? According to the official American version, the hindrance is that the draft final document does not stress the issue of human rights well enough and this is said by those who trample on the rights of millions of blacks in their own country, who back up dictatorial regimes in Chile and El Salvador, who uphold South African racists and Israeli aggressors.

If we take the paramount human right, the right to life, it is American policy in Europe that is threatening this right. Deploying new nuclear missiles in Europe may turn it into a battlefield.

The Reagan administration proceeds from the principle "the worse the better" with regard to that region. The worse East-West relations are, the better it is for those who contemplate NATO'S rearmament. The wider the gap between the two halves of Europe, the easier it is for Washington to dictate terms to its partners in any area of politics. Now let us consider this thing: Is it compatible with the Helsinki spirit when Washington demands that its NATO partners should reduce to a minimum their trade with the socialist countries? The answer is clear. This is in flagrant contradiction with one of the cornerstone principles of the all-European agreements obligating their participants to promote, not phase down, mutually advantageous cooperation. This is fresh proof of Washington's unwillingness to implement the Helsinki Final Act.

So the outcome of the Madrid meeting will largely depend on whether all the Europeans will be able to realize and prove it to the American side that the sacred human right, the right to life, cannot be sacrificed to the Washington stance: the worse for Europe, the better for the United States.

FURTHER ON REAGAN MX DEPLOYMENT DECISION

LD211338 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 21 Apr 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by (Sergey Fanton) and Gennadiy Vedenyapin]

[Excerpts] President Reagan's decision to embark on the manufacture and deployment of MX missiles, a new generation of ICBM's is encountering sharp criticism from prominent politicians and public figures in the United States.

Meanwhile, the White House has commenced an intensive pressure campaign in Congress, which has to express its position on this program over the next 6 weeks. Two high-ranking members of the Washington administration have addressed the Senate Armed Services Committee -- Secretary of Defense Weinberger and Secretary of State Shultz. They resorted to open misinformation and lies regarding the balance of nuclear forces between the United States and the Soviet Union, and spoke about the notorious Soviet threat and what they called the need to restore the strategic balance between the two countries. As it happens, strategic parity has been maintained between the two countries in recent years and this has been repeatedly confirmed by authoritative experts.

BULGARIAN SCIENTIST ON U.S. SPACE WEAPONS PLANS

LD181338 Moscow TASS in English 1142 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Prague April 18 TASS -- The Soviet scientists' address to all scientists of the world acquires particular importance in the light of the recent militarist statements of the U.S. President who openly declared the intention to transfer military confrontation to outer space, stated Kiril Serafimov, chairman of the Bulgarian Committee for Space Research and the use of outer space, corresponding member of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. The Bulgarian scientist gave an interview to Alexey Senin, a TASS correspondent, at the close of the session of the Executive Council of the World Federation of Scientific Workers, which was held here and in which he participated.

The creation by the United States of a gigantic anti-missile defence complex of a pronounced aggressive trend would lead to an unrestrained arms race, Kiril Serafimov said. He pointed out the utter untenability of Reagan's statement to the effect that new weapons would be capable of saving the USA from nuclear danger whereas it is well known that there are no effective defence means and that no one will be able to avert a retaliatory nuclear strike.

Serious concern, he went on to say, is being aroused by the call, contained in Reagan's latest pronouncements, to the scientists to actively join in military research and in unleashing a new spiral of the arms race. Reagan virtually demands that intellect and the entire potential of science and technology be placed at the service of preparation of a new war. "This is a terrible statement: The main purpose of science is to open up new vistas for mankind's development, and not for its destruction which is exactly the aim of the contemplated confrontation in space," the scientist said.

Space weapons the production of which Reagan intends to start would also create a threat to mankind by virtue of the possibility of an uncontrolled start of a conflict. A probability exists that those absolutely automatic systems would be actuated owing to a technical error or even owing to action on them by some natural phenomena. Thus, Kiril Serafimov concluded, deployment of anti-missile weapon systems in space sharply enhances a possibility of outbreak of nuclear war.

IZVESTIYA REJECTS 'HUMANE' VIEW OF NEW U.S. BOMB

PM211358 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed "Notes Apropos": "In a Militarist Stupor"]

[Text] The present U.S. Administration's obsession with the idea of achieving military superiority is becoming truly pathological. All records for bellicose statements and militarist doctrines and guidelines have been smashed, the Pentagon is planning big and small nuclear wars and the President himself is dreaming of turning outer space into a theater of hostilities. Dozens of new weapon systems are being developed in pursuit of the specter of "victory." MX and Trident II, Pershing and cruise missiles, the B-1 bomber and binary shells, the Stealth "invisible aircraft" and the neutron bomb -- hundreds of billions of dollars going into instruments of death. But it is not enough for Washington.

News agencies report that the United States has started developing another bomb, this time an "electromagnetic" pulse bomb. Two government laboratories engaged in nuclear weapons development are examining the possibility of creating the latest monster. As in the case of the neutron bomb, the U.S. press is going on about the "humane" nature of the invention. "When it explodes over enemy territory," THE WASHINGTON POST writes, "it will totally disrupt communications but will not kill people." Arguments are cited to the effect that the development of the new weapon is a promising idea since it can be created more quickly than other systems; its merits are described and its qualities extolled. But even in the publicity package designed to prepare public opinion for the electromagnetic pulse bomb the wolf's ears are seen to protrude from under the sheep's clothing. Explaining the "idea" behind the new weapon, THE WASHINGTON POST writes: "The total disabling of enemy communications will result in paralysis of the enemy's combat capability, and its defenses will be vulnerable to several types of strikes."

You couldn't ask for anything franker than that. So another card has been turned over in Washington's game of militarist solitaire. Is it the last...?

TASS ANALYST CRITICIZES U.S. ARMS SALES POLICY

LD212238 Moscow TASS in English 2013 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Robert Serebrennikov writes:

The United States is speeding up the export of armaments as a key instrument of its militaristic and hegemonistic foreign policy course. According to the information published, the United States now accounts for 45 percent of arms deliveries in the world. In 1982 the United States sold abroad armaments and military equipment to the record sum of 22 billion dollars.

The United States trade in armaments that assumed the unprecedented scopes upon the coming to power of the Reagan administration leads to the aggravation of international tension, speeds up the arms race, promotes the stirring up of old conflicts and emergence of new ones. An example of this is Latin America which is one of the main recipients of large volumes of U.S. weapons.

The analysis shows that a considerable part of U.S. military equipment and other means for the staging of punitive operations is supplied to the dictatorial, reactionary and anti-people regimes in Central and South America.

Seeking to preserve the neo-colonialist orders in the region, Washington uses Latin American dictatorships to stifle national liberation movements and people's actions.

It can be seen from Salvador's example what sufferings are brought to peoples by this course of the USA. Washington sends to Salvador in a constant stream planes and tanks, armoured carriers, cannons, helicopters to suppress the widening guerrilla movement. Tens of thousands of peaceful Salvadoran citizens were already killed by means of U.S. weapons. According to reports of the U.S. press, the total volume of the United States' military and economic aid to the agonizing Salvadoran regime will make up 140 million dollars in 1983-1984.

The Pinochet fascist dictatorship in Chile is among the best customers of the U.S. military-industrial complex. President Reagan lifted the restrictions on the supplies of armaments to the Chilean junta, regarding it as a "buttress against communism". Armaments with the trade "made in USA" are used for killing patriots in Quatemala and Hondruas.

The Near and Middle East is a "gold mine" for U.S. traders in armaments. The Reagan administration supplies weapons to the Israeli aggressors who are perpetrating international bringandage in the Middle East, grossly flout the United Nations' fundamental principles and decisions. The United States supplies Israel with a wide range of the most up-to-date U.S. armaments -- cluster, phosphorous and suction bombs promoting genocide and international terrorism of the Tel Aviv rulers who commit horrible crimes against Arab peoples, crimes that are similar to Nazi crimes against humanity of the times of World War Two.

In collusion with their NATO countries, the United States is heavily arming the South African racists who are waging an "undeclared war" against Angola, Mozambique and national liberation movements.

How sacrilegious is a hypocritic talk of the Reagan administration about "human rights" while the United States is engaged in the "export of counter-revolution" which U.S. representatives in the United Nations are justifying openly.

MOTIVES BEHIND U.S. EXPORT CONTROL BILL VIEWED

PM202042 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Correspondent A. Palladin dispatch: "Recurrence of Arbitrariness"]

[Text] Washington [no date given] -- The White House has sumbitted a recast and amplified bill on export control to Congress. The administration's proposals withdraw Alaskan oil, untreated red cedar timber and...horses from the list of goods banned from export from the United States. From the fall there will be no obstacles to their purchase by foreigners provided the legislators here support the administration's initiative.

But no rejoicing is noticeable in Western Europe, Japan or the United States itself. This is perhaps because by no means all the world's inhabitants share the American President's penchant for horseriding, there is not a great demand for red cedar, and oil, as we know has dropped in price.

No, the true reason for the universal condemnation of the White House's legislative initiatives are to be found elsewhere.

The reason for this reaction is that the meager concessions made to consumers of U.S. export products have been more than made up for by a very large dose of new restrictions in addition to those already in existence. And there is already such a quantity of them that 100,000(!) commodity items fall within their scope.

The new presentation proposed by the Reagan administration is allegedly to "balance the interests of business people with U.S. national security." The White House, however, interprets national security in a distinctive fashion, extending its limits far beyond the boundaries of the United States. Hence the bill's inevitable effect is that business interests are planned to be sacrificed to Washington's desire for world hegemony, for the sake of which, judging by all accounts, U.S. allies too will be required to forego their own interests. Thus Washington intends henceforth to blackmail states which refuse to shape their trading policy according to U.S. orders by cutting off their purchases of U.S. goods and services. It is planned to introduce even stricter penalties for foreign companies and firms which to Washington's mind do not behave as the American Administration requires. It is true that a proviso has been made whereby the White House would, it seems, be willing to show leniency toward those foreign businessmen who have already concluded deals with socialist community countries. But this proviso is robbed of any point since at the same time the President is granted the right to rescind the operation of this proviso at his own discretion. In addition the U.S. justice organs are given the right to impose an export embargo on any commodities which the White House considers "unsuitable" for export.

There is a saying current among Americans: "to shoot yourself in the foot." It is used on those occasions where you want to get at an enemy but make a fool of yourself in the process. The Reagan administration's attempts here last fall to wreck the "gas for pipes" deal concluded between a number of West European companies and the USSR came into this category. Washington, obsessed by anticommunism, introducted sanctions at the time against our trading partners and at the same time, fearing strict penalties and flouting the principles and "free trade," forbade American firms to participate in this enterprise. The results of that venture are well known. The Siberia-Western Europe gas pipeline is being successfully built but then new contradictions arose in the U.S. relations with its partners on the European Continent and a number of major American companies lost considerable profits.

Judging by the bill in question, the only conclusion the White House has drawn from last year's fiasco concerns the necessity of "legalizing" arbitrariness in international trade. Thinking in terms of warfare (economic warfare in this case) against the socialist community countries, the Washington administration has taken it into its head to make it even more embittered in nature and to draw its allies into it. Moreover, as Don Bonker, chairman of the U.S. House Subcommittee on International Economic Policy and Trade, has observed, this war is being declared to the same degree against "enemies" and "friends." How else can one interpret the new sanctions envisaged by the bill against those foreign firms which dare to disobey the White House's instructions not to develop mutually beneficial trade and economic relations with socialist states? American businessmen are also suffering.

There is a growing desire in the United States to judge the R. Reagan administration not by its words but by its actions. The actions which are being carried out and planned by the White House, as is clear if only from its international trade policy, bear unambiguous testimony to a desire to increase tension and a refusal to take account of the interests of other countries and peoples.

IZVESTIYA ASSESSES THAYER TRIP TO JAPAN

PM211137 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 4

[S. Chugrov "International Commentary": "Who Is Creating the 'Emergency'"]

[Text] Washington will not be satisfied by Tokyo's general declarations about its intention to turn Japan into the U.S. "unsinkable aircraft carrier" and it is demanding that every effort be thrown "in the shortest possible time" into building up the country's military potential. This is the leitmotiv of U.S. Deputy Defense Secretary P. Thayer's talks in Tokyo.

The Pentagon envoy demanded of Foreign Minister S. Abe and National Defense Agency Director K. Tanikawa that Japan be ready in the very near future to "conduct vigorous combat operations within a radius of 1,000 miles from the country's shores and to block international straits in the Far East in an emergency." Thayer performed the role of a regular government inspector, visiting the bases and other military facilities of the U.S. and Japanese Armed Forces, and he was obviously none too happy. KYODO AGENCY reports that Thayer "put pressure on Japan to get it to increase expenditure" on war preparations. To put it plainly, he took it upon himself to bawl out the Japanese military department for its lack of zeal in safeguarding U.S. interests in the Far East.

The Japanese political and military figures must have felt like naughty children. They had to explain that the country's financial position would not tolerate accelerated military programs. But, as the MAINICHI DAILY NEWS writes, Tokyo's timid attempts to "secure leniency" were most cruelly frustrated. The Pentagon representative bluntly demanded that National Defense Agency chief K. Tanikawa immediately appear on the Washington "carpet" to receive "specific instructions" from the U.S. defense secretary. Brusqueness and crude pressure -- these are the only words to describe Washington's treatment of its junior "security treaty" ally.

But should official Tokyo be regarded as the victim in a quarrel over the rate of satisfaction of the U.S. military's appetite? Not at all. And there are facts that show this. Tokyo has decided to hand over the Pentagon the latest military technology and to deploy U.S. F-16 fighter-bombers in Japan and has allowed the U.S. nuclear aircraft carriers Enterprise and Carl Vinson as well as the battleship New Jersey with Tomahawks on board into the country's ports.

And if the Japanese leaders dare make a timid protest to Washington, they are motivated not so much by concern for the state purse as by a wish to assuage the "nuclear allergy" of their own people, who remember Hiroshima and Nagasaki. So the Tokyo leaders, in their explanations to ordinary Japanese, have to be evasive and resort to lies, alleging that there are no nuclear weapons in Japan. The word "lies" was used by none other than retired U.S. Rear Admiral G. Larocque, director of the public information center on military problems. "No one believes Tokyo's attempts to deny the obvious facts," G. Larocque said and stressed that Washington regards Japan as a bridgehead for unleashing nuclear war in the Far East.

Tokyo's concessions -- this was demonstrated by Thayer's visit -- only serve to make Washington's appetite even bigger and the "friends" from across the ocean are becoming more demanding and more impatient. Blind involvement in the Pentagon's adventures and consent to the country's conversion into a nuclear firing range -- these are the facts which fall into the emergency category.

SOVIET DELEGATION HEAD PREVIEWS VISIT TO JAPAN

OW211119 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 18 Apr 83

[From the "Friendship and Good-Neighborliness" program]

[Excerpts] A delegation of both the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the USSR-Japan Society is scheduled to visit Japan this week. Following is a report on a Radio Moscow correspondent's interview with Deputy Chairman Yanayev of the Executive Council of the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries:

[Begin unidentified correspondent's recording in Russian, fading to Japanese translation] It can be said that rather cold relations currently exist between the Soviet Union and Japan. Under such conditions, however, friendly exchanges between the social organizations of the two countries have been successfully developed, year by year. In this connection, what are the tasks you have in mind for the coming visit to Japan?

[Begin Yanayev recording in Russian, fading to Japanese translation] I regret to say, as you have just pointed out, relations between the Soviet Union and Japan have not developed smoothly. However, the blame should not be put on the Soviet Union. And, at the same time, more and more Japanese have now come to realize that it is necessary to develop friendly relations, based on mutual understanding with the Soviet Union, and they are more concerned about cooperation with various organizations of the Soviet Union.

The purpose of our delegation's visit to Japan is to sign the 1983 programs for cooperation between various organizations of the two countries through the mediation of the union and the Japanese Association for Cultural Relations With Foreign countries. According to the programs for cooperation, more than 20 Soviet organizations, including the Soviet Academy of Sciences, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Health, various research institutes and publishing houses, are scheduled to participate in programs for cooperation with the Japanese organizations concerned.

Among the major events included in the programs are the third Soviet-Japanese Women's Conference on Women's Participation in the Struggle for Peace, Disarmament and Detente and Against Nuclear Weapons, the Symposium on Security in Asia and various exhibitions.

Furthermore, we will discuss the convocation of the liaison council for the five organizations, as well as the Fourth USSR-Japan Roundtable Conference, which is scheduled to be held in Moscow in 1984. As indicated by the experiences obtained from the past three conferences, it is most necessary at such a complicated and dangerous moment as this to have a forum for the social forces to carry out extensive exchange of views on such urgent issues as peace and security. [end recording] These were the remarks by Deputy Chairman Yanayev.

Furthermore, the correspondent asked if any new forms of cooperation were included in the programs.

[Begin Yanayev recording, fading to Japanese translation] According to the programs for cooperation in 1983, there are several new activities, in addition to the past forms of cooperation. For example, a protocol for cooperation in producing TV programs to introduce the Soviet Union has been signed between the Soviet State Commission for Cinematography and the Japanese Association For Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries.

We hope that our visit will end in success and that our talks with the Japanese organizations concerned will help strengthen the friendship and mutual understanding between the two countries, as well as between the peoples of the two countries. [end Yanayev recording] These were Deputy Chairman Yanayev's remarks.

DPRK EMBASSY MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF ARMY FOUNDING

SK220703 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] A press conference was held on 21 April at the DPRK Embassy in the USSR to mark the 51st anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army [KPA].

Colonel (Hwang Song-chol), military attache at the DPRK Embassy in the USSR, told Soviet reporters about the glorious militant course traversed by the Korean people's armed forces and about exploits displayed by the KPA during the fatherland liberation war against U.S. aggression.

Comrade (Hwang Song-chol) denounced Washington's attempts to fabricate a triangular alliance among the United States, Japan and South Korea and the Pentagon's other kinds of militarist preparations with South Korea and schemes in the Far East.

MONGOLIA'S BATMONH DEPARTS MOSCOW FOR HOME

LD212257 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2000 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Batmonh, Politburo member of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic, who was in transit through Moscow, left for Ulaanbaatar today.

TASS REVIEWS PROGRESS OF AFGHAN REVOLUTION

LD190912 Moscow TASS in English 0736 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 19 TASS -- TASS news analyst Yuriy Trushin writes: The freedom-loving Afghan people is preparing to mark the fifth anniversary of the formation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA). Over a historically short period of time the country has made important steps in socio-political and economic development. Characterising the real success achieved by the country over the past five years, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA in a speech in Kabul last Firday, pointed out that Afghanistan's agriculture and industry have risen to a qualitatively new stage in their development and that tangible results have been achieved in the social field.

The political course of the PDPA and of the people's power is widely supported by the working people of Afghanistan. This is indicated by the growth of the party's ranks over the five years from 18,000 to 90,000 members, by the strengthening of the youth, women's and other public organisations, by the development of the cooperative movement and by the broadening of the social basis of the National Fatherland Front which now unites in its ranks about half a million people representing the working class, peasantry, intelligentsia, national bourgeoisie, various tribes, and the clergy. The strength and firmness of the gains of the national-democratic revolution and evidenced by the decrees adopted by the DRA's government, on a land-and-water reform, during which more than 300,000 formerly landless peasants have been provided with 800,000 hectares of all nationalities and tribes, on full respect by the people's power for the Muslim religion, on an amnesty for those who were meanly deceived by counterrevolutionary and imperialist propaganda and raised weapons against the republic. The growth of gross agricultural output in the five post-revolutionary years by 4,500 million afghani as compared with the previous five-year period is illustrative of the effectiveness of the agrarian policy of the PDPA and the Government of the DRA, and of the fact that it has been taken with satisfaction by the people. A new aspect is that national bourgeoisie, too, began taking an active part in the development of the country's agriculture and industry in 1981-82 alone, national bourgeoisie invested more than 1,300 afghani in the creation of 90 new enterprises and projects. A good deal has also been done by the people's power in the past years for the improvement of the living conditions of the workers in town and countryside. A labour legislation sealing the rights of the working people has been introduced for the first time in the country's history. The state has spent about 63,000 million afghani in the past three years to raise the living standard of the people.

Afghanistan's international contacts grow wider, and the country's economic and technical cooperation with the Soviet Union, other socialist countries and such developing countries as India, Syria, the PDRY, Ethiopia, Libya, etc develop successfully. At present about 170 industrial and other national economic projects have been or are being built in Afghanistan with the Soviet Union's economic and technical assistance. The Afghan people's strides in the building of a new life would have been still greater if the imperialist forces headed by the USA ceased their subversive actions and the undelcared war against the DRA. The Government of the DRA, showing its will and striving for peace and goodneighborliness, in its statements dated May 14, 1980, and August 24, 1981, put forward flexible and realistic proposals which can become a good basis for a just and all-embracing political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan, including the question of the Afghan refugees' voluntary and honorary return home.

PHNOM PENH INDOCHINA CONFERENCE HAILED

OW191115 Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1300 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Station commentator Grammatchikov commentary]

[Text] Dear friends: Our station commentator Grammatchikov writes: All Soviet people have enthusiastically welcomed the report on the outcome of the conference of the three foreign ministers of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos recently held in Phnom Penh, the PRK capital.

The conference decision on the continued partial withdrawal, in May, of volunteer Vietnamese units from Kampuchea is a new indication of the goodwill of the SRV and the PRK, of the sincere desire of the three Indochinese countries to improve relations with their neighbors, to strive to sanitize the situation in Southeast Asia. This decision also proves the increasingly stabilized situation in Kampuchea and the increasingly consolidated people's administration.

The three Indochinese countries' strictly peace-loving policy sharply contrasts with the cunning schemes and acts of the imperialist and international reactionary forces, aimed at complicating the situation in Southeast Asia and arousing confrontation among the nations in the region. In the past, those schemes and acts have further worsened the tension along the Thai-Kampuchean border.

The world's progressive public is worrying about the hurried U.S. arms shipments to Thailand. It is no secret that those arms will mainly be reserved for the Pol Pot bandits, who are continuing their sabotage activities against the legitimate Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

No one can be deceived by the crafty Western propaganda machine, which blames the PRK for tension in the region. In fact, the Kampuchean armed forces, assisted by the volunteer Vietnamese units, have carried out effective measures to defend their national sovereignty. All those in their right mind know well that it is definitely necessary to carry out those measures, consonant with the peace-loving initiatives of the three Indochinese countries, in the international arena.

If the three Indochinese countries' proposal on the establishment of safety zones on both sides of the Kampuchean-Thai borderline were accepted, how could tension now exist along the border? The constructive stand of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, reaffirmed at the recent Phnom Penh conference, is receiving increasing support from the world public. At the 37th UN general Assembly Forum, representatives of many nations voiced their support for that stand, which was also highly valued at the Seventh Non-aligned Summit in New Delhi and at many other international gatherings.

Between the Soviet Union and the Indochinese countries, there is a complete identity of views on the way to struggle for peace and security in Southeast Asia. This has been stressed on many occasions at meetings between Soviet leaders and leaders of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in their affirmation to maintain a climate of peace and detente and to meet the interests of all peoples and nations in the region.

USSR, SRV SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

LD181258 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] The Soviet Union and Vietnam have signed a number of documents on expanding economic cooperation.

The Soviet Union will render technical assistance in the construction of a new major hydropower station and a power-transmission line. Vietnam will receive greater help in building, engineering and chemical plants, coal mines, and in opening up new land. The Soviet Union will send experts to continue prospecting for oil and gas on the continental shelf in southern Vietnam and for minerals.

BANGKOK HOSTS ASIA, PACIFIC COMMISSION MEETING

LD211247 Moscow TASS in English 1007 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Bangkok April 21 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Romanov reports:

The Soviet Union is in favour of extensive, fruitful cooperation of all peoples of the world, free from diktat and intervention into the affairs of others, for their mutual benefit and for the sake of mankind, said N. Solovyev, the head of the Soviet delegation to the 39th Session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, speaking at a plenary meeting today.

The Bangkok Session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific is attended by delegations from 33 member-countries, five countries that are associated members of the commission, observers from 14 other United Nations member countries and representatives of dozens of international organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations.

This session, the head of the Soviet delegation said in his speech, convened at a time when the situation in the world has been seriously complicated by fault of the aggressive imperialist circles. A policy is being pursued for the subversion of detente, the stepping up of the arms race, and the openly proclaimed aim of achieving military superiority, the use of methods of pressure and diktat, arrogant intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

The aggravation of the political situation in the world seriously complicates the efforts for a solution of the problems of the world economy whose state is deteriorating, the Soviet representative said. For most developing countries this leads to a slower rate of economic growth, a bigger deficit in payments balances, reduction in incomes from exports because of restrictions on the access of their production to western markets where a wave of protectionism is rising.

The Soviet Union invariably is in favour of the development of economic and technical cooperation between developing countries as a major factor in their attainment of economic independence. Soviet assistance to developing countries in the Asian and Pacific region is mainly aimed at building up industrial and energy capacities, the advance of agriculture, the surveying of mineral resources and the training of national personnel.

Soviet assistance in fulfilment programmes of the commission is rendered in conformity with requests and practically in all fields, including the organization and holding of seminars and fact-finding trips in the USSR, the granting of scholarships for students from developing countries in Soviet higher educational establishments, the dispatch of experts, the fulfilment of researches including unpaid ones, the granting of scientific information on the results of the work of Soviet scientific expeditions.

In rendering assistance to the commission the Soviet Union lays emphasis on those trends in its activities which are most promising for the developing countries of the Asian and Pacific region in the solution of their socio-economic problems, the head of the Soviet delegation emphasized in his speech.

GDR'S HONECKER TO VISIT USSR 'EARLY MAY'

LD201512 Moscow TASS in English 1501 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 20 TASS -- A party and state delegation of the German Democratic Republic led by general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Chairman of the GDR Council of State Comrade Erich Honecker is to come to the Soviet Union for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers early in May 1983.

USSR, GDR OFFICIALS DISCUSS PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION

LD151729 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Official representatives from the USSR and the GDR held a coordination conference in Lipetsk on the construction of the Urengoy-Uzhgorod gas pipeline. Our special correspondent Dmitriy Parshikov reports:

The GDR is actively participating in the construction of the pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe. It has concluded an intergovernmental agreement with the Soviet Union on cooperation in the construction of gas industry projects on our country's territory. GDR specialists are building four powerful compressor stations along the pipeline and are laying a 137 km section of the pipeline. Guenter Seifert, deputy minister for coal and energy, is representing the GDR. He stated that the work of 1,000 specialists, the best representatives of his country's youth, is actively supporting the Soviet builders' initiative to complete this very long pipeline ahead of schedule. Having joined in competition in honor of the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite Fascism and the 35th anniversary of the founding of the GDR, they have pledged to complete the projects they are building several months earlier than planned.

A joint protocol on the results of the conference has been signed. A package of measures for expanding cooperation between USSR and GDR specialists in the construction of fuel industry projects during the 12th 5-Year Plan has also been drawn up.

POLISH REGIONAL PAPER CITES 'SOLIDARITY UNDERGROUND'

PM181626 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 Apr 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Renegades Still Active"]

[Text] Warsaw, 15 Apr -- The voivodship newspaper GLOS WYBRZEZA has published an article on the activity and plans of the antisocialist underground in Poland. The article points out that in 1981 dozens of groupings ahdering to diverse political concepts and ideological guidelines were operating legally in the country under cover of the "Solidarity" trade union association. When "Solidarity's" activity was suspended on the introduction of martial law, those groupings also ceased their activity. Those who remained on the "battlefield" were the ones who had joined the ranks of the political opposition while hiding behind the slogans of the former "Solidarity." Some of that trade union's leaders joined the underground prepared beforehand for that occasion and continued their subversive work.

From the very first days of the underground's existence internal differences emerged among its diverse tendencies regarding the choice of tactics for the struggle against the authorities. J. Kuron, one of "Solidarity's" leading advisers, put forward the "single leap theory."

The essence of this counterrevolutionary tactic, the newspaper writes, consisted in organizing a general strike which, it was thought, would develop into an uprising. It was believed that after the downfall of the existing government a new one would be forced to accept conditions dictated by "Solidarity" and transfer de facto power into its hands. The achievements of this outcome was to have been guaranteed by pressure exerted on Poland by Western countries.

Z. Bujak, leader of the former Warsaw branch of "solidarity", was the author of another counterrevolutionary plan called the "long march." Its essence consisted in forcing the authorities to make gradual concessions to the point of the final transfer of power to "Solidarity" by "peaceful means," as it were. The authors of that "theory" did not abandon the weapon of the general strike, either, by means of which they intended to deal the final blow to state organs after previously paralyzing their actions.

Thus the political opposition grouped around the more extremist representatives of the underground "Solidarity" intend to exploit the Polish state's public institutions in order to combat it with the aim of totally destroying it. After the "single leap" tactic failed to live up to its supporters' expectations, the opposition went over in May 1982 to implementing the "long march" concept. At that time, "Solidarity" figures in hiding advocated the creation in the country or abroad of a strictly clandestine center which was to inspire opposition activity and form an "underground society" so that "Solidarity" supporters should gradually infiltrate the system of state power and hold official posts. To achieve these aims, it appears from the article, special directives were formulated whose content and thrust expose their authors' attempts to conduct antistate activity.

The article notes that it is as though 1982 divided Poland between opposition underground figures and their supporters and realistically minded people who, together with the PZPR and the people's power, have assumed the burden of getting Poland out of its deep economic crisis. The Polish people's future, the newspaper writes in conclusion, depends on the rate of progress and normalization of socioeconomic life.

WARSAW CITY PARTY DELEGATION ENDS MOSCOW VISIT

PM172102 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 10 Apr 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Visit Completed"]

[Text] The visit of the Warsaw PZPR Committee delegation, led by M. Wozniak, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Warsaw Party Committee, has ended. It was in Moscow at the invitation of Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

During their stay in the capital, the Polish comrades were received at the party gorkom by Moscow CPSU Gorkom First Secretary V.V. Grishin and a meeting between the Moscow party aktiv and the Warsaw PZPR Committee delegation was held. The guests visited the Proletariskiy CPSU Raykom, the editorial office of the newspaper MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA, the Main Administration of Architectural Planning and the Main Administration of City Passenger Transport, acquired themselves with the work of the I.A. Likhachev Motor Vehicle Plant and the No 1 House Building Combine and toured areas of new housing construction.

Yesterday the delegation left for home. The visitors were seen off at Sheremetyevo airport by V.V. Grishin, first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom; R.F. Dementyeva, Moscow CPSU Gorkom secretary; L.M. Perfilova, chief of the party gorkom Foreign Relations Section; and V.G. Chubarov, administrator of affairs for Moscow CPSU Gorkom and Obkom.

S. Kociolek, Polish ambassador to the USSR, and embassy officials were also in the sendoff party.

POLISH-USSR TREATY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

Lenin Festival Opens in Poland

PM201226 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Mark Anniversary"]

[Text] Warsaw, 19 Apr -- The Polish public is widely celebrating the 38th anniversary of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Aid between the USSR and Poland. In cities and workers' settlements, at enterprises and in military units ceremonial meetings, scientific sessions, exhibitions and meetings of activists of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society and of war veterans are being held to mark this notable date. Those taking part are stressing the vital importance of the treaty, which has played an enormous part in developing socialist Poland and consolidating all-around cooperation with the Soviet Union. The treaty, which strengthened the firm alliance and friendship with the USSR -- those taking part in a meeting in Olsztyn noted -- has become a unique launchpad for Poland's transformations within the fraternal family of the peoples of the socialist community.

In accordance with a tradition of many years' standing a Lenin festival has opened in Poland. It is being held under the slogan "With Ilich's Motherland -- For All Time."

Ceremonial Meeting in Moscow

PM210948 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Apr 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Portentous Anniversary"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting to mark the 38th anniversary of the USSR-Poland Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance was held in Moscow 20 April.

Speakers noted that the past years have confirmed that the treaty has marked a qualitatively new type of interstate relations based on principles of socialist internationalism and serves not only the interests of the two countries' peoples but also the entire socialist community and the cause of peace in Europe and throughout the world.

Z. Galecki, head of a Polish-Soviet Friendship Society delegation and member of the society's main board presidium, noted that Polish-Soviet friendship was consolidated during the joint struggle against fascism and further developed during the years of socialist building. The two peoples' ideological and political unity has been tested in the recent difficult years for Polish society.

DEMICHEV RECEIVES EAST BLOC THEATER OFFICIALS

PM201505 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "For Humanity in Art"]

[Text] On 14 April P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, received the leaders of the theatrical unions of Bulgaria, Hungary, the SRV, the GDR, Cuba, the Mongolian People's Republic, Poland, Romania, the CSSR and the USSR, who took part in the meeting just ended in Moscow to discuss the tasks facing theatrical unions and societies in the socialist countries in order to preserve peace and affirm theater art's humanist principles.

Questions relating to the further development of theater art in the fraternal countries were touched on in the ensuing discussion, which was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

EEC'S THORN, REAGAN HOLD WASHINGTON TALKS

'Efforts To Overcome Differences'

LD211040 Moscow TASS in English 1933 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Washington April 21 TASS -- President Reagan has met in the White House Gaston Thorn, chairman of the Commission of the European Communities, [who is] paying a visit to the United States. They discussed preparations for the economic summit of seven leading capitalist countries in Williamsburg, problems in trade between the United States and West Europe, economic difficulties besetting Western countries and East-West trade.

Addressing correspondents after the meeting, Reagan admitted the need to make urgent efforts to overcome differences between the United States and its Western trade partners. He also spoke in favour of formulating a common approach to trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Despite the failure of the policy of "sanctions" against the USSR, the U.S. Administration is again trying to pressure its partners in a bid to make them fold up their trade contacts with the Soviet Union.

Trade Relations Discussed

LD221010 Moscow TASS in English 0909 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Washington Apr 22 TASS -- President Reagan met with visiting President of the Commission of the European Communities Gaston Thorn in the White House Thursday. The sides discussed preparations for the upcoming Williamsburg economic summit of seven major industrialised capitalist nations, problems in trade between the United States and Western Europe, and also East-West trade.

Talking to newsmen after the meeting, President Reagan recognized the need of making urgent efforts to overcome differences between the United States and its Western trade partners. He also came out in favor of elaborating a common approach to trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Despite the flop of its "sanctions" against the Soviet Union, the U.S. Administration again brings pressure to bear on its partners in a bid to make them curtail trade with the Soviet Union, although such a move contradicts the interests of Western trade partners themselves.

Speaking at a news conference after the White House meeting, Gaston Thorn also pointed to serious differences between the United States and Western Europe aggravated by their current economic difficulties. He said in part that Western countries faced such a serious threat that failure to reach unity might spell tragedy. He said that the capitalist states were seized by a worldwide recession accompanied by growing unemployment rates.

One of the most serious problems in relations between Western European nations and the United States is trade in farm produce. Positive U.S. balance in trade with EEC countries reached about 10 billion dollars last year, mainly due to the flooding of the markets, traditionally considered Western European, with U.S. farmland produce. The "steel war" between the United States on the one side, and Western Europe and Japan on the other shows signs of intensifying.

Gaston Thorn said that the monetary and financial problem also was a major one. He pointed out that exchange rates set arbitrarily promoted instability in the economies of Western European nations.

The U.S. intention to impose on the Williamsburg summit a discussion of the further toughening of terms of trade with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries clearly failed to evoke enthusiasm among Western Europeans. Both Gaston Thorn and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who recently visited the United States, said they were opposed to the Williamsburg summit giving what they called excessive attention to that problem.

USSR 'CANNOT IGNORE' FRENCH NUCLEAR BUILD UP

'Exceeds' Defense Needs

LD211528 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS — Tass observer on military affairs Vladimir Bogachev writes:

The French Government has endorsed a sharp increase of the expenditures for military purposes which are to make up 830 billion francs in 1984-1988. A considerable part of the funds in the military budget will be spent on nuclear armaments and nuclear delivery vehicles.

As is known, the core of the French nuclear forces is now formed of five submarines carrying 80 nuclear missiles. The sixth nuclear missile carrier "Inflexible" with 16 M-4 missiles, each of which carries six independently targetable warheads is to go into service on the government's decision in 1985. All the French submarines, except for one, will be supplied with the new M-4 missiles by 1991. These missiles are already being tested. The seventh missile-carrying submarines is to be put into service in 1991, not in 1994 as was initially planned.

The French command has recently rearmed the ground component of its nuclear "triad", putting into service 18 new S-3 missiles, each with a warhead of one megaton. The range of these missiles is 3,500 kilometres.

Frances' military budget also envisages the modernization of "Mirage-4" planes equipping them with new nuclear missiles, the construction of a new nuclear aircraft carrier. Work to create neutron weapons continues in France.

The total explosive force of the French nuclear forces now making up 85 megatons will be increased considerably within five years.

It is absolutely obvious that the planned build up of the French nuclear forces exceeds considerably the country's defence needs, goes far beyond the limits of the needs of the so-called "deterrence."

Official representatives of the present French Government never denied and do not deny now that the build up of the French nuclear armaments is part of the military efforts of the West. French President Francois Mitterrand said in 1981 that France will supplement "without hesitations" the United States nuclear potential.

Commander-in-Chief of NATO forces in Western Europe Bernard Rogers, speaking in Paris the other day, publicly expressed the confidence that in case of war the French Armed Forces will "quickly join" the Western ally, even though France at present is not part of the military organization of the North Atlantic Bloc.

As is known, no refutations of these "predictions" of the American general have come from Paris yet.

The stand of the French Government concerning the talks in Geneva becomes ever more contradictory. On the other hand, official Paris constantly proclaims itself to be Washington's true ally, speaks about the readiness to "replenish" United States potential with its nuclear weapons, it building up its nuclear forces, and on the other hand, it protests against these forces being taken into account in the overall balance of the armaments of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty.

Meanwhile French generals are openly estimating the might of their nuclear forces by the number of cities which they are capable of destroying in the USSR and other socialist countries.

The Soviet Union, naturally, cannot ignore this reality at the talks in Geneva and not only at these talks.

Olin Commentary

LD212113 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Viktor Olin commentary]

[Text] A new military program of France for 1984-88 has been published in Paris. A comment from our observer Viktor Olin, and this is what he writes:

The new program earmarks about $115 billion to build up the nuclear potential, including medium-range missiles, as well as to modernize conventional forces. Among other things, the sixth French nuclear submarine is to be commissioned, with the seventh to be built. A new aircraft carrier is to be ready as well. Hades nuclear missiles are to go into production, and they are to be deployed. According to ASSOCIATED PRESS, Hades is a medium-range missile similar to the one under consideration at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva. The new program is first aimed at enhancing substantially the military potential of France, specifically its nuclear armaments. This no doubt may bring forth new factors in the correlation of forces in Europe, and hardly anyone will take it into his head to dispute the fact that NATO is to gain as a result, although formally France is not integrated within the NATO military wing.

At any rate, we know of numerous statements by officials of the most different ranks, to the effect that the French forces are an integral part of the NATO nuclear arsenal. Quite recently, Commander in Chief of the NATO forces in Europe, General Rogers, said he had no doubts that in the event of a conflict the French Armed Forces would fight side by side with the other countries of the North Atlantic bloc. About the same pronouncement was made by a French expert, his name not specified, for THE NEW YORK TIMES about the new military program of France. The promulgation of this program has reaffirmed the topicality of the Soviet proposals about the need of taking into account the nuclear potential of France and Britain for an overall balance of forces in Europe, and considering without fail this potential at the nuclear arms control talks.

To pretend as if no French and British nuclear missiles were in existence at all, on which some Western politicians insist, is tantamount not only to distorting the real state of things, it also means a violation of the principle of equality and equal security. The Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Treaty member states insist on strict compliance with this principle. They believe it is on this groundwork only that one can effect real measures toward banishing the war threat from Europe.

A radical means would be to remove all nuclear weapons from the continent, both medium-range and tactical.

Since the United States and other NATO countries give no consent to this kind of arrangement, the USSR suggests it should leave [as heard] as many missiles as France and Britain. But, it is implied in this context, that the road to lowering these levels shall always remain open. Steps in the opposite direction can only result in more arms race [as heard] and in a further threat of a military conflict in Europe.

SPANISH-U.S. COOPERATION AGREEMENT RATIFIED

LD212344 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1611 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Madrid, 21 Apr (TASS) -- The Congress of Deputies of the Spanish Parliament has ratified by a majority of votes the Spanish-American agreement on friendship, defense, and cooperation, signed by the previous government of the country in July last year. The agreement regulates in particular the question of the presence on the country's territory of four U.S. military bases, on which there are over 10,000 U.S. servicemen.

The presence of U.S. military bases in the country causes firm protests by the Spanish people. Recently, tens of thousands of people held demonstrations near the U.S. Air Force bases in Torrejon de Ardoz and Saragosa, during which they demanded liquidation of the bases. Under public pressure, the Cabinet has drawn up a supplementary protocol to the Spanish-American agreement, according to which Spain's integration into the NATO military organization is not envisaged, while the possibility is also admitted of reviewing the agreement by the demand of either party. The protocol has also been approved by the lower chamber of Parliament.

In presenting the agreement in the Congress of Deputies, Minister of Foreign Affairs Fernando Moran stressed that nuclear weapons will not be deployed in Spain. He noted that Spain will remain part of the Western defense, confirming at the same time the intention to hold a referendum concerning the country's membership of NATO. "Until it has taken place," the minister added, "we consider ourselves a member of NATO and will remain loyal to our obligations to the bloc."

Representatives of the Communist Party came out against ratification of the agreement in the Congress of Deputies. In their opinion adoption of this document bears witness to the fact that the ruling Spanish Socialist Workers' Party is deviating from its election program. The Communist Party of Spain demanded liquidation of U.S. bases in Spain and immediate withdrawal from NATO.

MOTIVES BEHIND PLANNED PARIS MEETING QUESTIONED

LD202316 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 20 Apr 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A course aimed at undermining relations. Here is our Paris correspondent Anatoliy Potapov:

A small report in the press has attracted the attention of correspondents in Paris. At the insistence of President Reagan, the notorious committee for controlling exports of strategic goods to socialist countries is to meet at the end of April in the French capital. This committee, which includes almost all NATO members and Japan, was set up in the worst period of the cold war and is still operating today. Reagan has turned it into an instrument for applying pressure on his West European partners.

And now the White House head has decided to demand new bans on exports of so-called strategic goods and, in essence, a further cutting back of trade with the USSR. And it is precisely Paris which is chosen for the elaboration of this operation aimed at undermining economic cooperation between East and West.

Is this a coincidence? Journalists here have noticed that France has gradually been giving away to colossal pressure from the United States. The tentacles of U.S. monopolies penetrate into literally every branch of the French economy, and at the same time the United States has forced France and the other West European countries to reduce their exports of steel to the United States and have introduced prohibitive customs duties which have hit the metallurgical industry. Many workers in Lotharingia now await dismissal in connection with the cutback in production.

Quite recently the main object of U.S. pressure was the French franc and France had to carry out a new devaluation, the third in recent times. France's economic position, with 2 million unemployed and a colossal deficit in its foreign trade balance is very serious. And the plan of harsh economy, as it is called, which was adopted by the National Assembly, has struck at the interests of thousands and thousands of working people and the French trade unions have now come out sharply against many of its sections.

What are the French newspapers now openly writing? They write that it seems that the French Government intends to ask President Reagan for a large U.S. loan. However, the U.S. is accustomed to receiving in exchange for their loans not only monetary but primarily political interest. U.S. General Rogers, supreme commander of NATO Armed Forces in Europe, has just visited Paris. A NATO Council session is to take place in Paris in June. And Rogers stressed in his meetings with journalists that there was no question of France's entry into NATO's military organization, but he gave high praise to what he called the close cooperation between the French Government and the Atlantic organization's military leadership.

And thus the committee which is the instrument of the cold war and the NATO supreme organ is to meet in Paris. Is this pure coincidence? Or is it linked with a well-aimed strategic line on Washington's part to entangle more deeply in the Atlantic web a country whose policy of independence has in the past won it international prestige and helped to influence the course of events in Europe, a country which is now giving way to pressure? Time will give the answer to this question.

FURTHER REACTION TO BEIRUT EMBASSY EXPLOSION

U.S. Policy To Blame

LD211945 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 21 Apr 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Nikolay Grechkov]

[Text] Arab and international press have published numerous commentaries recently on the explosion at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. The fact that the commentators are finding a close link between this incident and the situation in the Middle East as a whole is noticed. They point out that the explosion at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut is the direct result of not having reached a comprehensive settlement, the chronic tension in the Middle East and the Lebanese crisis. The responsibility for tension is borne first of all by the United States which has been encouraging Tel Aviv over many years in its expansionist schemes and the piratic policy pursued by it.

Here one must mention what was said by the Indian NATIONAL HERALD, which criticized U.S. policy in the Middle East saying: President Reagan has said that the explosion at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut is a criminal act. The paper exclaimed: Is this the only criminal act which he has discovered in Lebanon? Is not Israel's intervention in Lebanon a crime? Are not the Israeli forces staying in this country despite the withdrawal of the Palestinians from it? Is not Begin continuing the policy of colonizing Arab territories? Logically, the existing explosive situation in the Middle East leads to the only correct conclusion, namely that U.S. interference in the internal affairs of Arab peoples must be stopped and the Israeli criminal policy toward its Arab neighbors must be stopped in addition to providing the opportunity for the Arabs, and the Palestinians people in the first place, to build their lives on the basis of independence and liberty. However, Tel Aviv and Washington do not want to take into consideration the will of the Middle East region's peoples.

Israel Responsible for Blast

LD211337 Moscow TASS in English 1328 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Beirut April 21 TASS -- All responsibility for the blast at the United States Embassy in Beirut, for the numerous casualties among American and Lebanese citizens rests with Israel and its agents, it was stated by the prominent Lebanese politician, former president of the country Sulayman Franjiyeh. He said that the purpose of this crime is to frustrate or procrastinate indefinitely the process of talks on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon and was perpetrated exclusively in the interests of Tel Aviv. Franjiyeh said that the Israeli puppets operating throughout the territory of Lebanon are obediently fulfilling the orders of the Zionists and drowning the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in blood.

The former president of Lebanon demanded that Tel Aviv should unconditionally fulfil the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council providing for the immediate and complete withdrawal of Israeli occupation forces from Lebanon.

Kuwait April 21 TASS -- In its commentary the Saudi Arabian radio accused Israeli special services of organising the blast at the United States Embassy in Beirut.

Israel, the radio says, is the only side that stands to gain from this incident. The blast at the American Embassy, the commentary says, is a criminal and irresponsible act perpetrated by the Zionists.

Damascus April 21 TASS -- It is stressed in a commentary of the Syrian radio that the blast at the United States Embassy in Beirut was planned by Israel with the aim of imposing its demands at the talks with Lebanon. Judging by the actions of Tel Aviv's ruling circles and the statements in the Israeli mass media it becomes clear that the Israelis alone have benefited from the incident at the American Embassy. This act of terrorism provoked by Israel creates new serious problems in ensuring a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

PRAVDA REPORT ON USSR-IRAQ GREETINGS EXCHANGE

PM112254 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Apr 83 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers have sent S. Husayn, chairman of the Revolution Command Council and president of the Republic of Iraq, a telegram conveying to him and to the entire Iraqi people congratulations on the 11th anniversary of the friendship and cooperation treaty between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Iraq.

People in the Soviet Union, the telegram points out, invariably regard this treaty as an important factor in the cause of strengthening friendly ties and mutually advantageous cooperation between our countries. The telegram expresses confidence that relations between the Soviet Union and Iraq will continue to develop for the good of both countries' peoples and in the interests of establishing just and lasting peace in the Near and Middle East.

For his part S. Husayn, in a telegram marking the 11th anniversary of the friendship and cooperation treaty between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Iraq, conveyed warm congratulations and also best wishes to the friendly Soviet people. The telegram from the president of Iraq confirms the sincere desire to continue developing and strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union on the basis of the principles of mutual respect and common interests enshrined in the treaty and in the name of the flowering of the two countries' peoples and of service to the cause of preserving the freedom and independence of all the world's peoples.

COMMENTARY REFUTES IRANIAN ARTICLE ON USSR

NC191253 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1700 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] DONYA-YE VARZESH magazine, which is published in Tehran, tried to use the expanding sports relations between Iran and the Soviet Union to extremely disagreeable ends. The article recently published in this magazine on the stay of a group of Iranian gymnasts in Soviet Armenia proves this point. In this article the situation in the Armenian SSR has been completely distorted. Trying to make this article seem true, DONYA-YE VARZESH refers to remarks by Jalal Bazargan and Khorsand-del, two Iranian gymnasts and writes that allegedly the people of Armenia live in poverty and indigence in slums and miserable houses. However all facts prove the contrary.

The people of Armenia, together with the other nations in the Soviet Union, have made great progress during the years of Soviet rule. In Armenia too, as in other parts of the country, there have been no signs of unemployment, poverty, indigence and illiteracy over the past 50 years, and the people's living standards are constantly improving. During the past 5-year period alone, the true income of Soviet Armenia has increased about 23 percent. It should also be stated that elevation of the Soviet people's welfare and living conditions is based on a strong economy, which has been established in each and every Soviet republic. For example, last year Armenia's industrial production was 1,008 times greater than that of 50 years ago. Per-capita electricity production in Armenia now is 10 times more than that of Iran and Turkey. In this field Armenia has surpassed such European countries as France and Italy.

The power industries form the basis for the great progress in all industrial fields in Armenia, which exports its industrial products such as machinery, technical equipment and other products to 80 countries, including Iran. Meanwhile, the power industries improve the living conditions of all Armenian families. More than 20 years ago all villages in Armenia were incorporated in the power network. Power grid has been built in Armenia and has been connected to networks in other parts of the country. Now in Soviet Armenia there are 80 television sets, 100 electric refrigerators and other electrical household appliances per 100 families.

Armenia too, as in other parts of our country, has achieved many successes in solving the housing problem -- a problem which none of the capitalist countries can solve. At present, each inhabitant receives more than 12 square meters of housing. Each year the housing conditions of about 100,000 inhabitants of this republic improve because each year about 1 million square meters of housing equipped with modern amenities are built. In our country major expenditures for maintenance and repair of houses are paid for by the government and, as a result, in Armenia too, as in other parts of the country, rent comprises only 3 to 4 percent of the family budget.

Now let us see what objectives DONYA-YE VARZESH magazine is pursuing by publishing tales and fabrications about the Soviet reality. The publishers of this magazine, in trying to convince their readers that the Soviet people allegedly have an unfriendly attitude toward representatives of Iran's Islamic regime, fully reveal their objective. Our country was one of those which recognized the Islamic Republic of Iran before others. The Soviet people expressed their happiness over the victory of the Iranian people who overthrew the shah's rotten regime and ended the authoritativeness of foreign monopolies in their country. When the United States and other imperialist countries later imposed economic sanctions and resorted to other means in their effort to stifle the Islamic Republic with the help of Iran's reactionaries, the Soviet Union helped the Islamic Republic resist their pressures. Such a stance by the Soviet Union has led the Iranian people, who want to see the bases of their country's independence strengthened, to harbor friendly feelings toward the Soviet Union.

Publication of the calumnious anti-Soviet article in DONYA-YE VARZESH shows that its publishers are from the circle of pulpit preachers.

ISRAELI 'AGGRESSION' AGAINST SYRIA 'MAY BEGIN' SOON

LD211040 Moscow TASS in English 0640 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- The dangerous aggravation of the situation in Lebanon has been continuing in recent days. Israeli Air Force planes simulate strikes on objectives on the ground, above all, Palestinian camps. The invaders are building up a network of permanent firing positions at the heights close to the Syrian frontier. Another consignment of tanks and armoured personnel carriers has been moved to the southern sector of the valley. At the same time the construction of an Israeli military air field continues round-the-clock at a fast pace near the town of Ad-Damur.

It should be emphasized, Gennadiy Musaelyan writes in the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA (SOVIET RUSSIA) that a comparison of all these facts suggest that aggression may begin in the very near future.

What is the reason for this planned gamble? The American imperialists and the Israeli Zionists sustained a setback in their attempts to compel Syria to abandon its independent policy and to leave in the lurch the Palestine people. A similar fate affected the Middle East "Reagan plan". This is why Washington and Tel Aviv do not conceal their intention to strike a blow on Syria so as to put an end to all hopes for the restoration of the flouted rights of the Arabs and for the recovery of the lands forcibly taken away.

In this criminal political game, the observer emphasizes, each of the partners in the "strategic alliance" besides common aims also pursues his own. Israel, according to THE WASHINGTON POST wants to delay the withdrawal of the troops from Lebanon until 1984 when the electoral campaign is developing in the United States and the President, needing support from the influential Jewish community will not dare even strictly formal gestures in support of the Arabs -- like the call in the "Reagan plan" for a freeze in the building up of Israeli settlements on the Jordan West Bank. Meanwhile the colonisation of the seized lands proceeds at a faster pace.

The United States obviously strives for entrenching itself in Lebanon for many years. It plans a substantial increase in the numerical strength of the American military personnel under the flag of "multinational force" and an extension of the occupation zone. The Arab press recalls that the so-called "multinational force" in Lebanon already includes 1,200 American Marines. Up to ten warships from the Sixth United States Fleet are constantly anchored off Beirut.

The conclusion suggest themselves: The United States has begun the immediate realization in the Middle East of the doctrine of domination of militaristic colonialism. The Arab world can uphold its independence and rebuff imperialist and Zionist expansion only if it rallies its ranks.

FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA ASSAILED

PM172008 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 5

[V. Kudryavtsev "Political Observer's Opinion": "Words and Deeds"]

[Text] Time passes and the situation in South Africa remains alarming and dangerous. The Pretoria racists have occupied the southern regions of independent Angola and are carrying out bandit raids against Mozambique, Lesotho and other independent African states bordering South Africa. Namibia continues to remain under colonial dependence. Even a section of the Western bourgeois press and of some Western politicians are beginning to recognize all this. "Namibia," the British FINANCIAL MAIL [as published] newspaper wrote recently, "is all the more and more becoming a disaster area in political, diplomatic and economic respects." The imperialists are seeking to impose an openly neocolonialist regime on the Namibian people.

How are the Pretoria racist leaders managing to keep the continent's independent states in a state of tension and threat? By what means are they creating their own nuclear weapons? There is now no doubt, a document of the African National Congress (the organization which expresses the will of the African majority in South Africa) writes, that the conduct of South Africa's aggressive course is "possible only through the support of imperialism headed by the United States."

This support is expressed not merely in the proclamation of South Africa as a "friend" of the United States, nor merely in the immense U.S. financial and general economic interests in South Africa, nor merely in South Africa's strategic significance for American imperialism, but in an attempt also to solve in a neocolonialist spirit the question of granting full independence to Namibia, which has already been resolved by the UN Security Council (Resolution 435). Formal independence without real independence is the intention of the United States and its NATO imperialist allies.

The practical realization of this neocolonialist idea has, as we know, been placed entrusted to the so-called "Contact Group" consisting of representatives from the United States, Britain, France, the FRG and Canada. Why is it precisely this composition of the group that has been chosen? The United States, as the Reagan administration openly states, includes South Africa (though not just South Africa) in the "zone of American interests." Britain was once the colonial boss of South Africa. Until the end of World War I present-day Namibia, then South West Africa, was a German colony. Obviously, the FRG would like to become a neocolonialist successor of the Wilhelm Reich. Canada is included more to endow the group with "objectivity."

France, which in its time possessed many African colonies, had fewer interests in the south of the continent than the other group members. But in recent years the situation has changed somewhat. French monopolies have stepped up their expansion, which is manifestly going beyond the limits of Paris' former African colonies. Therefore French capital and goods have been concentrated on South Africa too. This has considerably heightened France's interest in participating in the Namibia "Contact Group." The present French Government, on coming to power, announced its fundamental views on politics in South Africa. External Relations Minister C. Cheysson as far back as September 1981 stated that France condemned South Africa's aggression against Angola and he advocated the swiftest implementation of security council Resolution 435. In May 1982 President Mitterrand prior to his African trip emphasized to AFP that the French Government confirms its desire to respect human rights, condemns the apartheid being practised in South Africa and is exerting efforts "within the framework of the Western Contact Group to obtain Namibia's independence."

This guideline offered (Yusuf Maytame Sule), chairman of the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid, to express a hope on behalf of the United Nations that France could play an important role in the struggle against apartheid.

However, what exactly has been done to justify UN hopes? In the fall of 1981 French Government circles stated that "France will never follow those who demand sanctions in respect of South Africa." This was an unambiguous signal of France's refusal to vote in the UN General Assembly in favor of the draft resolution envisaging the breaking of all contacts with South Africa and against also the resolution condemning countries which had entered into "impermissible" cooperation with South Africa in the military and nuclear spheres.

This same France introduced an embargo on the supply of arms to South Africa. This was under President Giscard d'Estaing in 1977 after Paris had already supplied Pretoria with considerable numbers of weapons (in particular, according to South African figures, France sold South Africa about 80 Mirage-111 and Mirage F-1 fighters, 9 Transall transport aircraft, more than 120 Super Frelon, Puma and Alouette helicopters and 3 Daphne class submarines). As for the spare parts for the weapons sold, South Africa receives them, in particular, from Israel, which is producing spare parts under appropriate licenses for the majority of French-made arms. But, as the French newspaper LIBERATION wrote, "strict control" has not barred the way to "goods which are suitable for being used for military purposes." The Compagnie Francaise de Petrole Total, for example, has received the monopoly right to supply the South African paramilitary police with petrol and the Thomson company has set up a radar system on the northern border of South Africa (the guerrilla war zone). Licenses for producing French weapons (spare parts for the Panhard armored vehicle and the Mirage fighters and so forth) are operating. Finally, the newspaper writes, military supplies continue through third countries. In short, as the Turkish newspaper BARIS concludes, France has not broken off trading relations with such a racist country as South Africa. (France occupies fifth place in trade with South Africa behind the United States, the FRG, Britain and Japan). And it is even continuing to cooperate with it in the field of developing nuclear energy. By the way, the newspaper notes that "it has not broken off its relations with Chile either."

France (the Framatome company) is helping South Africa to construct the (Kuberg) atomic power station near Capetown. The first reactor boiler was supplied toward the end of 1982. The second is to be supplied and commissioned at the end of 1983. However, the London magazine AFRICAN BUSINESS writes that the present government "has not taken any measures at all to impede the dispatch of the second reactor boiler and supplies of enriched uranium." Indeed not, after all, the financial interests from this construction, in the words of LE MONDE, amount to Fr9 billion!

Trade between France and South Africa is also prospering. France also imports South African bituminous coal, which is 30-40 percent cheaper than on the world market. This, by the way, is achieved through the African workers receiving only 24 percent of the average white wage (data supplied by Standard Bank Investment [name as published]). France's trade with South Africa is growing from year to year. There are about 165 companies operating in South Africa, either directly or through their South African branches. Capital investment in South Africa has reached approximately Fr8 billion. It is understandable that French companies do not wish to give up their positions to the United States, Britain or the FRG, all the more so given that the capital investments provide them with no less than 25 percent profit. And the present French Government, as LIBERATION emphasizes, remains a "realist so far as French industrial interests are concerned." As the newspaper puts it ironically, there is a great love existing between Paris and Pretoria based on commerce. Let us add that this basis exists not just for the sake of love but out of foreign policy considerations too.

U.S. ACTIVITIES AGAINST GHANA, NIGERIA CITED

LD190355 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] In Takoradi, Ghana, the National Defence Council has asked the government of the republic to expel the United States Ambassador Smith for brazen interference in Ghana's internal affairs. In Lagos, Nigeria, the press has published documents of the United States Central Intelligence Agency intended for United States Ambassador Pickering containing plans for the assassination of two prominent political figures -- the national chairman of the Party of Nigerian Unity, Obafemi Awolowo, and the distinguished businessman, Mr (?Abiola). Our commentary is by Sergey Kulik of the Soviet news agency TASS.

The United States special services abroad have close connections with the United States diplomatic missions, so these latest exposures of CIA operations in Africa underscore the methods used by the Reagan administration against the developing nations. According to the plans that have appeared in the NIGERIAN TRIBUNE and DAILY SKETCH of Lagos, the Reagan administration is scheming to set up a pro-American dictatorship in Nigeria. The White House is most displeased at Nigeria's consistent policy of working to get rid of the remnants of colonialism and racism in Africa and its energetic campaign for comprehensive economic sanctions against such a privileged ally of the United States as racist South Africa.

In Ghana the United States Ambassador was found to be helping groups that were trying to organize an invasion with a view to overthrowing the legitimate government. The Ghana Government has displeased Washington because it follows an anti-imperialist policy and is reducing the domination of Western business interests in the Ghana economy. Facts in the possession of the Ghana Government show that Ambassador Smith has been personally involved in the detailed plan prepared by the CIA for a coup in Ghana. Operating out of the United States Embassy in Accra, the Central Intelligence Agency was giving help to counter-revolutionary groups based in neighbouring countries and recruiting mercenaries and bringing them up to the Ghana frontier.

The United States Embassy in Accra also made use of the reactionary elements it had helped to infiltrate the army, security force and other sections of the state machinery. The main purpose of the plan to overthrow the legitimate government was to make Ghana serve the global interests of the United States.

The covert actions of the CIA have taken on catastrophic proportions since the Reagan administration came to power and began to make greater use of it to achieve United States objectives in Africa. CIA operations have been exposed in eastern Africa and in Mozambique and Zambia, and now in Nigeria and Ghana. The Reagan Administration automatically classifies as opponents all countries that refuse to toe Washington's line and then instructs the CIA to act.

USSR, ZAIRE SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT, PROTOCOL

PM171914 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Developing Cooperation"]

[Text] USSR Deputy Foreign Minister L.F. Ilichev received on 14 April Lenguema Douliya, secretary of state for international cooperation of the Department (Ministry) of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zaire, who is in Moscow on an official visit. A conversation took place on questions of mutual interest.

An agreement between the Governments of the USSR and the Republic of Zaire on cultural and scientific cooperation and a protocol on cultural and scientific cooperation in 1982-1983 were signed on the same day.

U.S. POLICY, MEASURES IN NICARAGUA ASSAILED

Anti-Nicaragua Obsession

LD191752 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 19 Apr 83

["Just Cause of Nicaragua" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow April 19 TASS -- Under the heading "Just Cause of Nicaragua" the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (the RED STAR) in its April 20th issue carries the following article by Yuriy Romantsov:

The Reagan administration, the article says, is intensively heightening tension in Central America, fanning in that region seats of a military conflagration for the sake of implementing its far-reaching imperial schemes. The reactionary anti-people regimes of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras are receiving a continuous stream of military supplies from Washington, and millions of dollars are being spent on the modernization of the armed forces of those countries, the construction of new bases, the training of hand-picked punitive units for the suppression of the peoples struggle for freedom and genuine independence.

Nicaragua, whose people four years ago cast off the pro-American Somoza dictatorship and took to the road of independence economic, social and political development, was selected as the main target for United States' hostile activity. Washington began working out plans to strangle the Sandinista revolution, immediately after it had gained victory. But the anti-Nicaraguan trend of United States policy became a real obsession with the inauguration of the present White House administration.

It has been learned from American press reports that way back in April 1981 President Reagan jointly with his foreign affairs advisers worked out a detailed plan for subversive operations against Nicaragua. In the same year of 1981 a beginning was made in the training of an "invasion army", built up mainly from the beaten survivors of Somoza men who on the eve of the failure of the dictatorship escaped from the country and found shelter in the United States, Honduras, and some other countries of the continent. They underwent a full course of military training under the direction of American "experts" at the American military bases in Fort Bragg (North Carolina) and at Fort Benning (Georgia), and also in military camps in Honduras subsidised by the Central Intelligence Agency. Washington supplied these cutthroats with sophisticated weapons, placed at their disposal aircraft and logistics bases. Overall coordination of the operations for training the counter-revolutionary scum was placed upon the United States' ambassador in Honduras Negroponte.

In the late 1982 and early 1983 a mercenary army launched on Washington's orders an invasion of Nicaraguan territory. Under a plan drawn up by the CIA and the Pentagon, the Somozist men were to entrench themselves in a north-western part of the country and to announce the formation of a "provisional government," which should afterwards apply for military aid to the United States and Honduras. This criminal plan was thwarted by the Nicaraguan people. The mercenary gangs have been surrounded and operations to eliminate them are in progress.

Washington has not given up, however. New bandit formations are being rushed in from Honduras into Nicaragua and are now operating jointly with troops of the Honduran army. It has been reported by THE NEW YORK TIMES, the ABC TV company and other American mass media that the CIA and the Pentagon have set up a special network to supply intelligence information to the counterrevolutionaries infiltrated into Nicaragua.

For this purpose spy planes are taken by American pilots over Nicaraguan territory to collect information about the movements of the Sandinist People's Army. Numerous CIA agents, many of them American citizens, have been infiltrated into Nicaragua. Isn't this a gross violation of not only commonly recognized international principles but also U.S. legislation? Ever more Americans are wondering today if the incumbent administration is not repeating the fatal mistakes of its forerunners, who plunged the United States into a dirty war in Indochina. Will these mistakes bring new disgrace to America?

The Americans have every reason for these worries. When Reagan was asked directly six times, through differently worded questions at a meeting with journalists -- what was the goal of U.S. policy in Central America, if the U.S. was not practising intervention in Nicaragua and what he, Reagan, could say about congressional charges that the administration was violating American legislation -- the President dodged every question.

Only when he was directly accused of attempts to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government the President tried to deny this. Meanwhile, Thomas Enders, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, admitted that the United States wanted Nicaragua to return to "political pluralism", which in Washington's parlance means the restoration of a pro-American regime.

ther American leaders repeatedly made similar admissions. U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, addressing a press conference on April 12, for instance, called upon Congress not to commit the gross error by adopting legislative amendments designed to prevent the administration from continuing to give aid to American friends. Jeane Kirkpatrick, the U.S. permanent representative of the United Nations, said in a televised interview that the United States had every moral right to back the Somozist counterrevolutionaries.

And what about cynical remarks by the American ambassador to Honduras, John Negroponte, who "explained" to Congressman Robert Torricelli during the latter's visit to that country, that the legislative amendment banning the CIA from participation in efforts to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government was a formality which should not stand in the way of the attainment of U.S. goals in the region. The unwillingness of the United States and Honduras, which acts on its instructions, to accept Nicaragua's proposal for holding bilateral talks to settle the outstanding problems is a logical consequence of this stand. Washington is interested not in a dialogue, but in further aggravation of the situation in the region and expansion of the scale of the aggression.

The undeclared war which the Reagan administration launched against Nicaragua reflects its attitude to developing countries in general. It is a model of how Washington wants to build its relations not only with Latin American countries which embarked on the road of independent development, but also with developing nations of all continents.

Dangerous machinations against Nicaragua evoke indignation in the world. The 7th Nonaligned Summit, recently held in New Delhi, assessed intensive and frequent acts of aggression against Nicaragua as part of a deliberate plan designed to intimidate the country and destabilise its domestic situation. Nicaragua's stand in favour of political settlement on the basis of the unconditional withdrawal of the Somozist gangs and cessation of the kindling of the conflict by the United States and Honduras enjoys mounting support in Latin American and other countries.

The armed invasion of Nicaragua, directed from outside, is resolutely denounced in the Soviet Union and demands are made that an end be put to provocations and threats with regard to that sovereign state.

General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov during a meeting in Moscow with Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Guiding Council of Nicaragua's Government for National Reconstruction, expressed confidence that Nicaragua will be able to uphold its freedom and independence, and declared sincere solidarity of the Soviet Union, all Soviet people with the Nicaraguan people in their just cause.

CIA Wages Undeclared War

LD211759 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2130 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow, 21 April (TASS) -- Edward Boland, chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the U.S. House of Representatives, made a statement the other day which caused a commotion at the White House. He said that the Reagan administration "is clearly violating" the stipulations of the law which bears his name, the so-called "Boland Amendment." As we know, this "amendment," which was unanimously passed by the members of the House of Representatives, was signed by President Reagan in December last year, thus acquiring the force of law. Basically, the amendment bans the United States from carrying out measures aimed at overthrowing the government of Nicaragua and of undertaking any actions to provoke a military conflict between Nicaragua and Honduras, Vadim Listov writes in PRAVDA.

The master of the White House reacted to this immediately. He declared that his administration was acting "in accordance with this law." Repeating Reagan's claim, W. Casey, director of the CIA, hastened to say that his agency is not violating U.S. laws either. If it is supporting certain Nicaraguans, it is only because, as he put it, they are striving not to overthrow but merely "liberalize the government of Nicaragua.

While formal debates about whether the administration is violating the law or not take place on Capitol Hill, the CIA and other special services are waging a criminal, undeclared war against peaceful Nicaragua, the commentary stresses. Attention is drawn to the fact that in spite of "the Boland amendment" the CIA is stepping up its "assistance" to the mercenaries it is sending into Nicaragua. At the same time Washington is provoking an armed conflict between Honduras and Nicaragua in an attempt to turn it into a border, regional conflict.

The facts will out, and for this reason no verbal strategems by the leaders of the Reagan administration intended to "soothe" Congress and mislead public opinion in the United States will succeed. Revelations follow one after the other. By its actions in Nicaragua, the Washington administration has again demonstrated to the entire world not only the aggressive nature of its foreign policy but also its perfidious and hypocritical nature.

REAGAN STAKES OWN PRESTIGE ON EL SALVADOR

LD212221 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 21 Apr 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] THE WASHINGTON POST has published an article saying that, according to information circulating in U.S. Congress, in an attempt to achieve a settlement in El Salvador President Reagan, staking his own prestige, intends to send a high-ranking U.S. representative there to help organize and hold elections in that country with the participation of all sides taking part in the conflict. This is definitely said scathingly, but it seems to me that a brief commentary on this report would be appropriate.

First, this intention shows once again with surprising clarity all the old imperial ambitions of Washington, which is sincerely convinced that it has the right to resolve the problems of other countries by means of such direct and blatant interference in their internal affairs and their lives. We will appoint a placeman, invest him with the appropriate powers, and the Salvadoran web will be unravelled. This is the idea, so to speak.

But let us consider how much smug arrogance and naive faith in one's own omnipotence there is in this. After all, there have already been similar lamentable experiments of this kind by Washington in the past. U.S. placemen have at one time or another been appointed in Iran, Vietnam, and Phnom Penh. A quarter century ago there was a seemingly omnipotent governor-general from Washington in Cuba, too, and a few years ago -- quite recently -- just such a placeman from Washington was in Somoza's Nicaragua. We all know how that ended. Is it possible Washington has learned nothing?

As for the idea of holding elections in El Salvador, the Salvadorans and the whole world recall what a farce a similar venture in that country -- also inspired by Washington -- turned into a year ago, in March last year. One might think that that failed attempt should have taught the Americans something. But no, they are again trying to play the same silly, provocative games.

And the last thing I would like to say is this: President Reagan, according to the article in THE WASHINGTON POST, is prepared to put his own prestige at stake in El Salvador. I fear it is already too late for the present U.S. Administration to worry about its prestige, particularly in connection with El Salvador.

SUPREME SOVIET GROUP CONTINUES VENEZUELA VISIT

PM191156 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS dispatch: "Fruitful Contacts"]

[Text] Caracas -- A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation led by S.N. Imashev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is in Venezuela on an official visit, has been to Venezuela's National Congress. The Soviet visitors were warmly greeted by Godolfredo Gonzalez, president of the Congress, and other Venezuelan parliamentarians. During a conversation Armando Sanchez Bueno, president of the Chamber of Deputies, noted the importance of developing interparliamentary links in the interests of strengthening friendly relations between Venezuelan and USSR peoples. Last September Venezuelan parliamentarians had the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the outstanding achievements of the Soviet Union in various spheres of life. The visit by the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation is a new milestone on the path of further expanding fruitful contacts between parliamentarians of the two countries, A. Sanchez Bueno said.

S.N. Imashev expressed sincere gratitude to the leaders of the National Congress for the invitation to visit Venezuela. He told them of the peace-loving foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Government and Soviet people's fervent desire to live in peace and friendship with all peoples of the globe. The USSR Supreme Soviet and CPSU Central Committee appeal "to parliaments, governments, political parties and peoples of the world" had a profound response among peace-loving forces, the head of the Soviet delegation stressed. Parliamentarians of the planet's states must make a worthy contribution to progressive mankind's struggle against the arms race and for the relaxation of tension and elimination of the threat of thermonuclear catastrophe.

The same day, members of the Soviet delegation laid wreaths at the monument to Simon Bolivar, national hero of Venezuela and leader of the South American peoples' liberation struggle against Spanish colonialism, and acquainted themselves with the capital's sights.

LENIN BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IN KREMLIN OPENS

Officials Attending

LD221537 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] A solemn meeting devoted to the 113th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilich Lenin was held in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses today. Leading production workers of Moscow and the Moscow area; party veterans; representatives of party, administrative, and public organizations; scientific and cultural figures; men of the Soviet Armed Forces were assembled. Also present were foreign diplomats and foreign guests.

The participants in the solemn meeting stood up to welcome with prolonged applause Comrades Andropov, Aliyev, Gorbachev, Grishin, Gromyko, Pelshe, Tikhonov, Ustinov, Demichev, Dolgikh, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Solomentsev, Zimyanin, Kapitonov, Rusakov, Ryzhkov.

Also in the presidium were Bakdash, general secretary of the Syrian Communist Party Central Committee; Corvalan, general secretary of the Chilean Communist Party; O'Riordan, general secretary of the Irish Communist Party; and Sousa, general secretary of the People's Party of Panama.

The solemn meeting was opened by Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom.

Under the arches of the Kremlin Palace of Congresses the hymn of the Soviet Union rang out solemnly.

The report, "Leninism Is a Living and Creative Teaching and a Sure Guide to Action," was delivered by Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The report was listened to with great attention and was frequently interrupted by prolonged applause.

The participants in the solemn meeting, on their feet with enthusiasm, sang the Internationale. A great festive concert then began.

Gorbachev Speech Report

LD221435 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- The Soviet Union favours a "sensible organization of international relations, above all, prevention of war," said Mikhail Gorbachev, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He was addressing the celebration meeting in Moscow today devoted to the 113th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth.

"Every step of the Soviet Union, our every initiative is an epitome of great Lenin's behests. The Leninist peace strategy, the Leninist principles of socialist foreign policy determine all international activities of the CPSU and the Soviet state," the reporter said.

Mikhail Gorbachev described the "adventurist approach of the most aggressive forces of imperialism to the main issue of the present -- that of war and peace" as the main cause of the present aggravation of the international situation.

"The aggressive ambitions of imperialism are directed above all against the Soviet Union, the entire socialist community," he said. Economic sanctions and psychological warfare, attempts at launching a crusade against communism, interference in the home affairs of the socialist states down to nurturing a counter-revolutionary fifth column as, for example, in the case in Poland, are all realities, irrefutable facts."

"An ultimatum is made to socialism, as a matter of fact, that if it does not give up its positions, the developments will downhill to war. But the alternative of either succumbing to imperialism's diktat on the world scale, or a world war is insane and monstrous in its very essence," the speaker said.

"The policy of imperialism, the imperialist attitude is countered by our socialist attitude to international issues, which is an expression of the vital interests of the working masses," Mikhail Gorbachev stressed. "We are confident that social progress cannot be halted, the historical process of mankind's transition to socialism cannot be prevented as socialism stands for peace.

"In the Soviet Union and in the fraternal socialist countries there are no forces that would need war, the arms race, an aggravation of the international situation. Our clear and open aims are peace, relaxation of tension, universal security, a fair and mutually beneficial cooperation, the inviolability of the right of the peoples to social and national progress, to be masters of their destiny."

Mikhail Gorbachev recalled that the peace programme drawn up by the CPSU has been and remains a reliable compass in the struggle for a radical improvement of the international situation.

"The growing unity of the fraternal socialist countries, their close cohesion, and loyalty to the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism are the most important factor in the struggle for peace," the report points out. "The Prague meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states has again demonstrated the determination to bar the road to war."

"We believe that central to the struggle for preventing war is the effort to curb the arms race, which is now moving into a qualitatively new, by far more dangerous phase," Mikhail Gorbachev said. "The U.S. Administration disregards the vital interests of the peoples and shows an irresponsible attitude in its bid to build up infinitely the already existing nuclear weapons stockpiles, to pursue an unrestrained race of all types of strategic weapons. Acting under the false cover of the "zero option", "interim variant", and other ploys, the American militarists are stopping at nothing in their intent to deploy at all costs their medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe, thus turning its peoples into a nuclear "hostage" of the USA. To this day the United States and its NATO partners have not yet responded to the Soviet Union's unilateral commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons."

The Soviet Union is countering the attempts of the USA to use talks for upsetting the balance of forces, which has taken shape, with the constructive idea of such a reduction of arms, under which the general balance would remain as the first step, but at the lowest possible level. In pressing ahead for transition to disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament, our country does not seek military superiority."

"We," he continued, "sincerely strive for success at the talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic weapons and on the problem of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe."

We are ready to reach agreements on the basis of reciprocity, consideration for the legitimate interests, and in accordance with the principles of equality and equal security."

"The imperial ambitions of the United States, the arms race, the cult of force and propaganda of war -- all this makes the imperialist attitude to international issues a universal danger," the reporter said. "It is known that the aggressive tendency among the ruling circles of the Western camp is countered by a more realistic, sober tendency, whose proponents favour detente and cooperation."

"The development of the Soviet Union's relations with many Western countries shows that we have considerable areas of concurrent interests. This is a good basis for further promoting the Leninist principle of peaceful coexistence in international relations."

Mikhail Gorbachev said in conclusion: The Soviet Union "sees its historic responsibility in putting up an insurmountable barrier to imperialism's man-hating policy. We are motivated by concern not only for the security of the Soviet people and the fraternal peoples of the socialist countries, but also for the future of civilization in general. Strengthening of peace is a lodestar to the future of international relations. The USSR is for eliminating international tensions, for normal and good relations with all states, including with the United States of America."

CPSU POLITBURO ON MARX CONFERENCE, AGRICULTURE

LD211725 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- At its regular meeting the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee has heard a report on the work of the CPSU delegation at the international scientific conference "Karl Marx and the Present -- The Struggle for Peace and Social Progress" that was held in Berlin. It was stressed that the conference has shown strikingly the viability of the Marxist-Leninist theory, the role of socialism as the implementation of this theory, the unbreakable tie between socialism and the struggle for peace, the importance of international solidarity of the communist movement and various movements for national and social liberation.

Contributing towards the accomplishment of the tasks set at the meeting of the first secretaries of the central committees of the communist parties of the union republics, territorial committees and regional committees of the party that was held on April 19 of this year, the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee has discussed a number of questions of further development of the country's agriculture. Additional measures have been approved to ensure the gathering of the harvest, procurements of farm produce and fodder in the current year, and ensuring successfully the wintering of the cattle in the period of 1983-1984.

Measures have been determined to speed up the creation of facilities for the production of some types of farm machinery and increasing their output at the enterprises of the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machinery Building in 1984-1985. The ways to improve the occupational instruction and education, vocational guidance of pupils of rural general educational schools, and vocational training schools, and ensure that their graduates remain to work in agriculture has been discussed.

The meeting of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee has discussed the question of the measures for further development of the fuel and energy base in the areas beyond Lake Baykal and in the Far East in 1983-1985 and for the period up to 1990.

The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee has approved the proposals of the USSR Council of Ministers to set up at the Lenin Komsomol Autoworks the facilities for the production of new model of a passenger automobile and its versions on the basis of advanced achievements in the sphere of automobile manufacture.

The meeting of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee has also discussed some other questions of the country's domestic affairs and foreign policy.

USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DECISION ON LETTERS

PM201556 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS-attributed "Official Section"]

[Excerpt] Unflagging Attention to Working People's Letters

At a routine session the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium heard and discussed reports by N.D. Khudayberdyyev, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers; USSR Light Industry Minister N.N. Tarasov; and USSR Food Industry Minister V.P. Lein on the state of affairs in considering working people's letters.

The USSR Council of Ministers Presidium pointed out in its adopted decision that the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers, the republic's local soviet and economic organs, and also the USSR Ministries of Light and Food Industry, fulfilling the 26th CPSU Congress decisions, CPSU Central Committee resolutions, and USSR Council of Ministers decisions on work with letters, and on organizing the reception of citizens, are taking measures to improve the organization of business in this important sector. These questions are discussed regularly at sessions of the aforesaid USSR ministry collegiums and the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers Presidium, at sessions of local soviets and at sessions of their ispolkoms; the state of this work at subordinate enterprises and in organizations and establishments is monitored. Constant attention is devoted to analyzing and generalizing letters, and the conclusions from them are used in practical work.

At the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers and in local soviet organs the majority of letters are considered by the leaders of these bodies, and many of them involve visits to the locality. To improve work with working people's letters and suggestions active use is made of such forms of work as holding open letter days and village meetings, and widely involving deputies and the public in this work.

At the same time, as shown by a check conducted by the USSR People's Control Committee at the USSR Ministries of Light and Food Industry, as well as by workers of the USSR Council of Ministers Administration of Affairs familiarizing themselves with the state of affairs in the Uzbek SSR, there are shortcomings and omissions in the work with working people's letters. The USSR Ministries of Light and Food Industry still do not display proper persistence in realizing working people's suggestions and wishes on improving the quality and range of products being manufactured; on ensuring the more rational use of material, labor, and financial resources; strengthening the protection of socialist property; improving workers' housing and domestic conditions; and implementing measures to remove the causes which give rise to letters and complaints.

Insufficient use is made of incoming reports to improve the leadership of associations and enterprises. The ministries do not display the necessary exactingness toward persons guilty of mismanagement, who violate state discipline, and who commit abuses.

In the Uzbek SSR the large number of letters about improving housing conditions and about the unsatisfactory work of consumer service enterprises is to a considerable degree accounted for by the fact that the plans for commissioning living space and the plans for many kinds of consumer services are not being fulfilled.

Instances of an inattentive, formal attitude toward citizens' letters still occur both in the aforesaid USSR ministries and in the Uzbek SSR, the deadlines for considering letters are violated and there is inadequate monitoring of the fulfillment of the adopted decisions on working people's letters.

The USSR Council of Ministers Presidium has obliged the USSR Light Industry Ministry, the USSR Food Industry Ministry, and the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers to take the necessary measures to improve work on considering letters and organizing the reception of citizens and to remove the shortcomings revealed.

USSR ministries and departments and union republic councils of ministers are instructed:

To ensure the elaboration and implementation of measures to further improve work on considering suggestions, statements, and complaints, and on organizing the reception of citizens in the light of the demands stemming from the party Central Committee November (1982) plenum decisions and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo resolution of 9 December 1982;

To make fuller use of working people's suggestions when preparing decisions on questions of economic and social development and to ensure a proper response to actual instances of mismanagement abuses, and other shortcomings in the work of enterprises, organizations, and establishments;

To enhance exactingness toward workers in all management links for the timely and correct resolution of the questions raised in working people's letters and verbal remarks, and to institute proceedings against persons who resort to red tape and adopt a callous attitude toward working people's needs and requirements when considering their suggestions, statements and complaints.

COMPARISON ON COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SESSION

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 21 April, First Edition, carries on page 2 a TASS report entitled "In the USSR Council of Ministers" on the 20 April session of the USSR Council of Ministers. Comparison with the Moscow Domestic Television Service Report published in the 21 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT under the headline "Council of Ministers Holds Session 20 April," pages R 1-2, shows the reports to be identical except as follows:

Paragraph two, line seven reads in PRAVDA: ...by 3.9 percent, in railroad transport by 5.1 percent, and in construction by 4.2 percent; while purchases of livestock and poultry increased by 6 percent, milk by 14 percent, and eggs by 4 percent. Plan tasks for...(supplying additional passage)

Paragraph five, line six reads: ...of Ferrous Metallurgy.

Shortcomings occurred in the fulfillment of targets for reducing the prime cost of output, saving material resources, and increasing profits.

The USSR Council...(supplying additional paragraph)

Page two, second paragraph, last line reads: ...delivery of output.

Union republic councils of ministers and the relevant USSR ministries and departments are instructed to ensure the successful completion of spring field work; the efficient utilization of machinery, fertilizers, and other material resources allocated to agriculture; the enhancement of livestock raising productivity; and the timely preparation of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and procurement organizations for gathering the crop and procuring and processing agricultural produce.

Construction ministries of the USSR and the union republics communist parties are instructed to implement additional measures to ensure the unconditional on-schedule commissioning of projects due for completion in the current year.

The decision which...(supplying additional passage)

MINISTERS ATTEND CONSTRUCTION TRADE UNION PLENUM

PM211150 Moscow TRUD in Russian 21 Apr 83 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Trade Union Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] A plenum of the Construction and Construction Materials Industry Workers' Trade Union Central Committee has been held in Moscow. Its participants discussed economic and trade union organizations' tasks in implementing the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Measures To Ensure the Fulfillment of the Plans for the Construction of Apartment Blocks and Socioconsumer Projects" and also economic and trade union organizations' work in galvanizing labor collectives for the fulfillment of socialist pledges on saving material resources in the construction materials industry. Reports were delivered by I.A. Lanshin, chairman of the Trade Union Central Committee; A.I. Yashin, USSR minister of the Construction Materials Industry; and F.D. Opekunov, secretary of the Trade Union Central Committee.

The plenum examined organizational questions. A.M. Surovtsev and V.I. Lyubushkin were elected secretaries of the Trade Union Central Committee. Participating in the plenum's work were I.T. Novikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosstroy; V.F. Bogatikov, secretary of the AUCCTU; V.I. Fedorov, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Construction Section; and S.V. Bashilov, N.V. Goldin, G.A. Karavayev, and A.M. Tokarev, USSR ministers.

SHCHERBITSKIY BOOK ON SCIENCE REVIEWED

[Editorial Report] Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian on 19 March 1983 publishes on page 2 a 1600-word V. Shinkaruk and L. Nikiforov review of V.V. Shcherbitskiy's book "Scientific-Technical Progress -- The Party's Concern" [Nauchno-Tekhnicheskiy Progress -- Zabota Partiynaya], published by Kiev's Political Literature Publishing House in 1983. The book, according to the review, analyzes the party's organizational and political work in accelerating scientific-technical progress and reveals the "natural character" of the party's growing leading role in managing scientific-technical progress and social processes in conditions of developed socialism.

CPSU'S KAPITONOV ADDRESSES TBILISI CONFERENCE

PM150740 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 8 Apr 83 pp 1-3

[Report delivered by I.V. Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at 7 April Tbilisi session of All-Union Scientific and Practical Conference: "Developing the Working People's Activeness, Strengthening Discipline and Improving Work Style -- Urgent Tasks for Primary Party Organizations" -- capitalized passes printed in boldface]

[Text] Esteemed comrades!

We are meeting in the ancient and ever young city of Tbilisi -- the capital of fraternal socialist Georgia. Before coming here I reported to Comrade Yu.V. Andropov on our conference. I have great satisfaction in conveying to you cordial greetings from Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov and his good wishes for success in the conference's work.

Our conference is taking place in an atmosphere where the Communist party and all the Soviet people are working persistenlty to implement the socioeconomic tasks put forward by the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums.

These are great and complex tasks.

In broad terms, they consist in improving developed socialism and increasingly fully revealing its creative potential and its humane essence. Specifically, our concerns are now focused on improving production efficiency and work quality and fulfilling the intensive targets of the 11th 5-Year Plan.

As we approach the midpoint of the 5-year plan, we may note that much has been done to develop the economy, implement the social program and increase the people's well-being. But matters are not moving forward as successfully as is required, and it is necessary to work persistently to reach the targets set.

In the speeches by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the Central Committee November plenum and at the celebrations of the USSR's 60th anniversary and in his article "Karl Marx' Teaching and Certain Questions of Socialist Building in the USSR," fundamental provisions are put forward on ways of resolving the tasks facing us. Key significance is attached to increasing the labor and sociopolitical activeness of working people and creating the conditions for developing their creative initiative and independence. This activeness and initiative are essential to the realism of the party's plans and the growth of its strength, and are ultimately the guarantee of the implementation of the communist building program.

In this light the need for an all-round increase in the militancy of primary party organizations is particularly plain to see. The aim of our scientific and practical conference, convened by a decision of the CPSU Central Committee, is to analyze how party organizations, operating in the very thick of life, help in practice to promote links between party policy and the masses' living creativity, the development of the working people's activeness and the successful implementation of economic and ideological education tasks. The conference offers a good opportunity to study comprehensively by what means the work of grassroots party components should be brought up to the level of the major present-day tasks, which are to a large extent new tasks.

The holding of the present conference is another manifestation of the attentive, Leninist attitude of the CPSU Central Committee to the multifaceted practical experience which is accumulated locally. It is important to interpret this experience, generalize all that is most caluable and universally significant and think together about how best to use this experience in our practice.

I would like to note that attentiveness toward primary party organizations is now strengthening in the fraternal parties too. This was discussed in detail a year ago in Prague at the conference of central committee secretaries of the communist and workers' parties of socialist countries who are concerned with questions of organizational party work.

The representative nature of our conference, in which secretaries of primary party organizations, workers from the Central Committee of union republic communist parties, party kraykoms, obkoms, gorkoms and raykoms and the mass media and social scientists are taking part, makes it possible to count on a creative discussion and fruitful results.

I.

Comrades!

For 80 years now our party, which has devoted all its activity to selflessly serving the working people's interests and to the struggle for socialism and communism, has been in the front ranks of the revolutionary renewal of the world. Traveling a vast historical path and overcoming all trials and difficulties, the party has led the country to great victories, augmented its forces and won unquestionable political and moral prestige among the masses. While remaining a party of the working class by its nature, it fulfills with honor the role of the vanguard of the whole Soviet people. The CPSU's vitality is largely determined by the strength and reliability of its base, the foundations formed by primary party organizations.

K. Marx and F. Engels themselves regarded the grassroots components of the proletarian party as the center and nucleus of work among the working people ("Works," Vol 7, p 262). V.I. Lenin, in creating our party, pointed to the need to ensure that the lowest-level organizations form its basic organizational cell in practice, or just in words ("Complete Collected Works," Vol 13, p 60). In the conditions of socialist building Vladimir Ilich stressed that grassroots party components, "carrying out the work of agitation, propaganda and organization and adapting themselves resolutely to all spheres of public life and to all the varieties and subdivisions of the working people's masses, must systematically educate, through this multifaceted work, themselves, the party, the class and the masses" ("Complete Collected Works," Vol 41, p 191).

At the stage of developed socialism primary organizations, with their wide network of shop organizations and party groups, play an ever-increasing role in the implementation of party policy and the resolution of economic, sociopolitical and educational tasks and link the party closely to the masses. This is a manifestation of the objective law of the growth of our party's prestige and influence in society.

The increase in the role of primary party organizations is determined above all by modern trends in our ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT -- the urgent need for intensification of the economy, the acceleration of rates of scientific and technical progress and the more rational utilization of material resources and manpower and the placing of qualitative indicators in the forefront.

Grassroots organizations bear the responsibility for ensuring that party directives on the most important questions of our society's development are embodied in concrete form in labor collectives' day-to-day practice. This presupposes that plan discipline is strictly observed everywhere, the priority importance of state interests is upheld consistently and a struggle is conducted against manifestations of local and departmental narrowmindedness. It is important to cultivate in every working person a clear understanding of the economic and sociopoltical significance of the results of his labor.

Furthermore, the tasks of SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT cannot today be resolved successfully without reliance on grassroots components. At the present stage the labor and political activeness of members of society is closely associated with the enhancement of their well-being and people's general and professional culture and with improving working, living and leisure conditions. As you are aware, these tasks are not simple. Much depends, for instance, on improving distribution relations and monitoring the measure of labor and the measure of consumption. Only with the essential participation of party organizations is it possible to ensure close links between material and moral labor incentives and improvements in labor organization and efficiency. More enegetic efforts are also called for to eliminate physically heavy, uninteresting, routine labor, which accounts for some 40 percent of labor in industry and even more in construction and agriculture.

Fundamental significance is attached to further improving SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY and in particular to strengthening democratic principles directly in production. At enterprises and institutions a system of social institutions has grown up which makes it possible in involve virtually every working person in the management of general affairs. In these conditions the work of primary organizations, which are called upon to strengthen the democratic foundations of life which are inherent in socialism, develop the masses' initiative and involve them broadly in the work of the whole state, is filled with new content.

Lastly, we must not lose sight of the fact that the realization of the growing EDUCATIONAL potential of the socialist society and the molding of high civic qualities in the individual, of a collectivist, patriotic and internationalist perception and conduct, depend directly on the party organization. Matters must be arranged in such a way as to ensure that real people and their needs and interests are constantly in our field of vision.

The operation of all these factors is manifested in the conditions of the labor collective -- the primary cell in our entire social organism. It is here that the party's tasks and instructions are put into practice and the success of all our plans is ultimately decided; it is here that the link between the working people's own interests and aspirations and the key tasks of communist building is ensured in practice. Labor collectives and in particular workers' collectives are the environment in which internationalism can be cultivated and the fraternity and friendship of the USSR's peoples strengthened best of all.

The primary party organization, as the political nucleus of the labor collective, is called upon to actively promote the implementation of its broad constitutional rights. It is responsible to the party for all aspects of the labor collective's activity and development, for creating a sound moral and political climate in the collective and for its contribution to the common cause.

Primary party organizations have great opportunities for influencing labor collectives. They unite in their ranks the most conscious section of the collective, active people who enjoy prestige and trust and are drawn together by the unity of their aims and world outlook and by unity of actions.

In accordance with the CPSU rules, they are invested with extensive powers to implement party policy and their influence penetrates the very debts of the working people's masses.

There are not 18,118,000 communists in the CPSU's ranks. The leading place in the party's social composition belongs to workers, of whom there are 8 million. Workers and kolkhoz members account for two-thirds of all communists. One in every four or five specialists in the national economy and one in two scientists are party members. In a word, the party's forces operate in all sectors of material production and all spheres of our society's spiritual life.

In characterizing the party's organizational potential it should be said that there are now some 426,000 primary party organizations. More than one-third of them operate in production collectives, where more than 70 percent of the country's able-bodied population are concentrated. The number of party organizations is growing rapidly in the regions of Siberia and the Far East and in otherplaces where new territorial production complexes are being formed and sparsely settled regions are being opened up.

With the development of concentration and production sharing, the formation of associations and the growth in the CPSU's ranks, party organizations are becoming increasingly large and militant. In the last 20 years the average numerical strength of party organizations at industrial enterprises ahs increased from 65 communists to 103. Many sovkhoz and kolkhoz party organizations were small until relatively recently. Now sovkhozes have an average of 68 communists and kolkhozes 60 communists. Now 1 in 10 primary organizations is headed by a party committee. More than 1,000 of these have the rights of a party raykom on questions of admission to the CPSU, taking stock of party members and candidate members and examining communists' personal cases.

Large party organizations, which operate, as a rule, in decisive sectors of the socialist economy, have to deal with correspondingly large-scale work. Important tasks are also resolved by primary party organizations which are relatively small in size. They usually operate in collectives involved in educating people and in services. This means mainly educational institutions, cultural and health institutions and enterprises in trade and the service sphere. Here the role and responsibility of each communist is particularly high. I notice, incidentally, that unjustified attempts to make small organizations larger through amalgamation occur. Life shows that ill-considered decisions on these questions weaken the party's influence in collectives. Every primary organization, regardless of its numerical strength, must be the party's combat cell.

Party organizations' organizational and political potential is being expanded through the dynamic development of their internal structure. This structure is becoming increasingly ramified, embracing all subunits of the collective. Primary party organizations now include a total of more that a million shop party organizations and party groups. Efficient, well-thought-out collaboration between all components in the party structure ensures the coordination and unity of communists' actions.

A necessary condition of successful activity by every primary party organization and of its effective fulfillment of its function as the collective's political nucleus is the consistent observance of the principle of democratic centralism and the Leninist norms of party life enshrined in the CPSU rules. Where a strong, cohesive party organization operates, success is inevitable. It is party organizations like this which set the tone today in general work for the sake of communist creation.

II.

Comrades!

On the basis of Lenin's tenet that "living, creative socialism is the creation of the people's masses themselves" ("Complete Collected Works," Vol 35, p 57), the party focuses its activity on the all-round development of the working people's activeness in production and in public life. At every stage this work has its thrust and takes concrete form in accordance with the tasks ahead. The core of labor activeness today is the fullest possible utilization of internal reserves in the socialist economy with a view to increasing production efficiency and promoting further intensification of production. Primary party organizations can see these reserves, it may be said, from the inside. Bring them into play, urge labor collectives to do so, ensure that economic activity at enterprises takes place in full accordance with the party's economic policy -- that is the duty of party organizations.

The main thing was and is concern for the fulfillment of economic and social development plans. As is known, targets for the first 2 years of the 5-year plan were unfulfilled in a number of the most important items. So the CPSU Central Committee attaches particular significance to this year, the core year. It is necessary to make up for lost time and create the conditions for normal work in the remaining 2 years of the 5-year plan.

In accordance with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November plenum, much work is now under way centrally and locally. The party's Central Committee and its politburo are implementing a wide range of measures of an economic and organizational nature to stimulate highly productive labor and initative among the masses and overcome bottlenecks. Particular attention is devoted to the implementation of the USSR Food Program. And that is having results. And you know, the plans for the first months of the current year in the national economy are being fulfilled considerably better and without being amended downward.

Party organizations have accumulated good experience of organizational and ideological education work and of mobilizing working people to fulfill plans and increase production efficiency. The main production and social factors are constantly in communists' field of vision, namely: modernization and retooling, the introduction of new machinery and progressive technology, the fulfillment of output norms at every work place, the saving of resources, the enhancement of output quality, collective forms of Labor organization and remuneration, the improvement of working conditions, and so forth.

Many party organizations, adopting precisely this tone in their work, invariably achieve success. They include, for instance, the party organizations of Moscow's Stanikostroitelnyy Zavod im. Sergo Ordzhonikidze association, Karkov's Zavod im. Malysheva association, Tashkent's Krasnaya Zarya association, the Bereznikovskiy titanium and magnesium combine, the Nagornaya mine in the Kuzbass, the Kotlas and Solikamsk pulp and paper combines, the Megnitostroy trust, the Ilichevsk sea port, Zvenigordskiy Sovkhoz in Moscow Oblast and others.

At the same time it should be noted that certain party organizations do not study economic activity profoundly enough, continue to adopt a one-sided approach toward production and place the emphasis on quantitative indicators, letting efficiency and quality indicators slip. And at times this entails the lack of a concrete approach to work and its isolation from urgent matters, which not infrequently leads eventually to serious disruptions in the fulfillment of plans and also puts associated enterprises in a difficult position.

It should be stressed that the fulfillment of the plan for deliveries and contract commitments must be the main criterion in assessing the activity of production collectives and their leaders. The struggle for stable economic ties begins at the place of work and is waged in teams and ships. It results depend directly on each worker's conscientious fulfillment of his duties. Here the influence of party organizations must be particularly active, and they are called upon to step up exactingness over the observance of state interests.

The team form of labor organization offers wide scope for the development of people's production activeness and the resolution of people's production activeness and the resolution of economic tasks. More than half of all industrial workers are not united in teams. They are becoming more widespread in construction and transport. The CPSU Central Committee has acknowledged the need to step up organizational work in introducing the collective contract in kolkhoz and sovkhoz production.

At the same time the team form has not yet become basis in labor organization and incentives. There are still many cases where teams are created only formally, and some of them split up. Certain party organizations stand aloof from this important matter. Party concern must be displayed for ensuring that the autonomous financing team becomes an established part of the labor collective's life and is really the primary link in production management. It is important for there to be more communists here and for each of them to be really enthusiastic about the new task. The creation of party groups and teams should be approached more boldly.

Incidentally, I would like to raise at our conference the question of ensuring party influence in collectives where there are no communists. As you know, people are trying to resolve this question in different ways in various places. It would be useful to exchange the experience accumulated.

A powerful lever for mobilizing the masses is socialist competition, which, in accordance with the CPSU rules, primary party organizations are called upon to lead in the collectives. More than 110 million people, or more than 94 percent of all working people, now take part in competition. This is a vivid indicator of Soviet people's high level of consciousness and initiative. Party organizations act correctly in orienting socialist competition toward increasing labor productivity, ensuring the rational utilization of all types of resources and saving them in every way and improving other indicators. Communists are called upon to set a personal example in competition, march in the vanguard, notice examples of highly productive labor in good time and support them, disseminate the best experience and bring the main bulk of competitors up to the forerunners' level.

This year is the 25th anniversary of the patriotic movement for a communist attitude to labor. Millions of people now take part in it. One in four people employed in the national economy is a shock worker in communist labor. The title "Collective of Communist Labor" has been conferred on more than 8,000 enterprises and organizations. Of course, this provides a good school for people's labor and moral education. All the same, the movement's potential is not utilized sufficiently. Not infrequently requirements are relaxed in conferring and confirming these lofty titles. It can also happen that a collective bears the title of a communist labor collective, but does not fulfill plans, tolerates shoddy work and operates at a loss; yet this does not cause the party organization concern. The tasks of party and trade union organization are to make this movement live, to ensure that it meets its purpose more fully -- that of teaching people to live and work in a communist fashion.

The socioeconomic tasks set by the party require the strengthening of party control in all spheres of the national economy and in every sector of production. This is an effective means of educating working people and increasing their responsibility.

The strength of party control lies in its profound analysis of problems, its links with all organizational and educational activity and its effectiveness. Party organizations must make better use of the right granted by the rules to exercise control over the administration's activity in order to establish a concrete, businesslike approach to work. A resolute struggle should be waged against attempts by certain economic leaders to justify their own shortcomings in terms of so-called objective difficulties.

A number of important documents concerning stepping up the control functions of party organizations have been adopted by the Central Committee since the 26th congress. A resolution has been adopted "On Primary Party Organizations' Commissions for the Exercise of Control Over the Administration's Activity and the Apparatus' Work," as well as a provision on commissions. Control is an important political and organizational function of primary organizations resulting from the party's leading position in society. The Central Committee intends it to be used more fully with a view to developing production, increasing cadres' responsibility and ensuring the observance of state interests.

Comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee November plenum numbered among the most important tasks that of resolutely stepping up the struggle against any violations of party, state and labor discipline. The party's appeal has met with wide support among Communists and all Soviet people.

Party organizations have launched major organizational and explanatory work in collectives. On the Muscovites' initative, the movement for making conscious discipline, efficient labor organization and exemplary public order the daily norm is extending across the country. In many places specific pledges have been adopted on improving the utilization of the production reserves inherent in strengthening discipline and on reducing losses of working time.

But only the first steps have been taken. This work must be stepped up and carried out systematically and purposefully and an atmosphere of high exactingness, comradely mutual assistance and responsibility must be constantly maintained in every collective. "Without the necessary discipline -- labor, plan and state discipline," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov said, "we cannot advance quickly.... We need conscious, workers' discipline that will advance production. We must fill the struggle for discipline with major content and link it directly to the fulfillment of production targets.... Then the plans outlined by the November plenum of the party's Central Committee will be fulfilled."

We cannot tolerate a situation where some workers, kolkhoz members and employees do not work with all their might, do not cherish the state's interests, but indulge in absenteeism, lateness and instances of drunkenness and often move without justification from one enterprise to another. Idlers, absentees and drifters are parasites of society, often enjoying equal benefits with conscientious workers.

The requirements of strengthening socialist labor discipline pose in a new way many tasks of organizational and educational work by the party's grassroots components. It is necessary to do everything possible to enhance the educational role of the collective itself and form sound public opinion the collective against violators of discipline. The collective's tried and tested methods must be used more actively here -- workers' meetings, people's control groups and posts, team leaders' councils, comradely courts, commissions and councils for the prevention of violations and other forms of influence. It is important to cultivate a profound understanding in every working person that discipline is not only the strict observance of the internal rules, but a conscious, creative attitude toward your own work.

It is necessary to destroy the indifference of certain workers toward strengthening discipline. We cannot tolerate a situation where at certain enterprises the real state of affairs with regard to the use of work time is distorted and absenteeism and other violations are concealed. Party organizations must give a principled assessment of such cases and wage an uncompromising struggle not only against violators, but against those who connive with them.

The CPSU Central Committee receives a large number of letters in which working people raise the question of further stepping up the struggle for discipline and order and make many proposals on this score. They are all studied attentively.

Major work has begun, and it must become a campaign. It is important to strengthen people's firm awareness that the line of discipline and order will be pursued undeviatingly.

The Central Committee directs party organizations to be implacable toward any kind of negative phenomena, violations of the laws or deviations from the norms of public life. Persistent, consistent work is being done in this direction in Georgia, Azerbaijan, Belorussia and a number of other places. But in the main things are still improving only slowly.

The enhancement of organization and the strengthening of discipline and order pursue the goal not only of eliminating existing shortcomings and difficulties, but of further strengthening the foundations on which our socialist way of life is built.

The increasingly close interweaving of the collective's and the individual's interests is a characteristic feature of our activity. This objective process presupposes further improving party organizations' work in rallying labor collectives and creating in the collectives an atmosphere of comradeship, mutual assistance and exactingness. Stable, strong collectives are capable of great things.

The experience of leading industrial enterprises such as the Likachev Motor Vehicle Plant, the Minsk Tractor Plant, the Cherepovets Metallurgical Plant, Uralmash and the Ust-Kamenogorsk Lead and Zinc Combine convincingly confirms the essential truth that concern for production is above all concern for people. Party organizations should constantly keep in their field of vision labor organization and remuneration, technical equipment for labor, the creation of the conditions for people's professional and cultural growth and the resolution of housing and consumer questions and other social questions. Economic leaders and all the services whose duties include the creation of suitable living, working and leisure conditions for people must be actively involved in this.

The task of forming stable socialist collectives is particularly urgent for new construction projects. Valuable experience in this respect has been accumulated by the party organizations of the Kama Trusk Plant, Atommash, the Baykal-Amur Railraod and a number of other enterprises. This experience shows how important it is from the very first -- from the first nail, so to speak -- to show concern for fixing cadres and for work with young people arriving on Komsomol passes and to see that the construction of housing and other social facilities does not lag behind.

The CPSU Central Committee attaches great significance to more fully satisfying working people's requirements. A whole series of measures have been adopted recently on fulfilling housing construction plans, improving consumer services to the population and regulating the work schedule of enterprises in trade and the service sphere. You are familiar with the Central Committee and government documents on this score. Party organizations -- first and foremost primary organizations -- must use their potential to work persistently on ensuring that the party's concern for the Soviet person is consistently put into practice.

Comrades!

Our party devotes constant attention to deepening socialist democracy, extending the ownership rights [khozyayskiye prava] and opportunities of the working person in production and developing his activeness in all public life. As you are aware, this is a big issue. I would like to dwell on those aspects which are directly connected with the primary party organization's activity.

First and foremost this applies to party leadership of the trade union organization. Without this organization virtually no significant question connected with the collective's life and with people's interests and requirements can be resolved. And the trade unions must make effective use of the entire arsenal of means of influencing social processes, economic development and the masses' education.

An integral system of involving working people in management has become established in labor collectives and has been tried and tested in practice. It includes workers' and kolkhoz meetings, permanent production conferences, economic analysis bureaus, innovators' councils and so forth. Primary party organizations are called upon to do everything to help ensure that all these public organs operate effectively, help to mobilize people to implement party policy and help reveal the creative abilities of every Soviet person.

Working people's meetings, which directly implement Lenin's idea on the universal involvement of working people in management, are worthy of special attention. Suffice it to say that every year some 80 million people speak at these meetings. It is important for the meetings to discuss vital issues of the enterprise's activity and for the workers' firm voice to be heard there in relation to idlers, drunkards and those who strive to give as little as possible to production and take as much as possible from society. It is equally important for the collective opinion and the working people's observations and proposals to be examined speedily by the leadership and higher bodies.

The party organization is responsible for ensuring that the administration, together with the trade union, adopts decisions which directly affect people's interests correctly and with wide publicity. I have in mind decisions involving changes in norms and evaluations, the payment of bonuses, the allocation of housing and so forth. Bureaucratic rule in these matters has a negative effect on the moral atmosphere in the collective. Here it is necessary to act in a well-considered way, consulting with people.

In speaking of existing experience in developing labor and sociopolitical activeness we are by no means idealizing what has been done. The party organizations must see clearly everything which is still holding back the working people's creative thought and initiative. How to achieve the point whete there are no passive people and everyone is socially active? This problem is not a simple one, of course. Its solution requires an all-around consideration of many factors and specific conditions of life and work and a person's individual features.

All ideological educational work must be directed even more persistently toward raising people's activeness and developing their initiative in labor and social life. This work achieves its purpose when it is as close as possible to life and the working people's interests and is marked by veracity and realism and freshness of thought and expression. The close combination of people's political, economic and legal education with their activity in the sphere of labor and management helps to form a person with a socialist education who is indifferent neither to his own labor successes, well-being and prestige nor to the affairs of his work comrades and the labor collective and the interests of the entire country.

Comrades!

The Communists invariably act as the mobilizing, motive force in developing the working people's production and sociopolitical activeness. And that is natural. The Communists' vanguard role stems from the very nature of our party, which is the masses' leader and organizer.

This role is ensured primarily by the Communists' composition and their unity and organization. The party attaches special significance to swelling its ranks with people prepared to struggle sefflessly for communist ideals and to work actively in the organization. Of those joining the CPSU almost 60 percent are workers, 10 percent are kolkhoz members and about 26 percent are representatives of the intelligentsia. Over 80 percent of new party members are under 30 years old. The trend toward the growth of party ranks through women and working people of various nationalities and ethnic groups is of a positive nature.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo recently examined questions of the growth and further consolidation of the party ranks. The main thing is that the party's development should proceed in accordance with the instructions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the directions of the Central Committee. In the period under review the party has increased quantitatively and strengthened qualitatively.

At the same time a number of party organizations are still allowing elements of forcing through in admission to the CPSU. Individual organizations do not admit enough workers, particularly cadres. Some primary party organizations display an unexacting approach toward the study of the professional, political and moral qualities of those joining the party and make poor use of the candidacy period for their all-round verification.

The Central Committee Politburo has suggested to the party committees and primary party organizations that on the basis of Leninist norms and principles they perform purposeful work on selection to the party and the development of the Communists' initiative and activeness and the enhancement of their vanguard role, responsibility and discipline.

The loftier the ideological and moral qualities of each Communist, the higher the prestige and influence of the party and each of its organizations. This obliges the party organizations to perform constant painstaking educational work with CPSU members and candidate members. The party study system, which encompasses over 16 billion people, serves to develop a scientific Marxist-Leninist world outlook and the skills of political work among the masses. In recent years the practice of holding individual talks with Communists and of their reports on the fulfillment of their statutory duties has been firmly established. Other varied work is also performed. All this promotes the formation of an active life stance in the Communists. They set set examples of shock labor and help the laggards and come out with valuable initiatives.

For instance, at the party organization of the Voronezh S.M. Kirov Synthetic Rubber Plant virtually all the Communist workers have personal plan-pledges, work successfully themselves and draw their nonparty comrades up to their own level of skill. At the Leningrad V.I. Lenin Nevskiy Zavod association the production of our own turbine for the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline was rapidly assimilated with the Communists' determining participation. And you know what political significance that has had.

Many such examples could be cited, comrades. But there are instances of a different kind when Communists do not serve as model in labor and public life but are in every respect among the laggards. This must be assessed as the nonfulfillment of statutory demands. The task consists in ensuring that each of the 18 million Communists takes an active part in joint work.

Many Communists are soviet deputies and are elected to leading trade union and Komsomol organs. In practice it is through them that party leadership of party organizations is implemented. This obliges Communists with the working people's trust to justify that trust by their conscientious attitude toward matters, their attention toward people and their activeness and principledness and to lead the masses behind them. Work in public organizations must be viewed as the Communists' most crucial assignment.

In this connection I should like to touch on the question of the Communists' work in the Komsomol. In the past 15 years the party nucleus in the Komsomol has increased fivefold. As a whole this is undoubtedly having a positive effect on the Komsomol organizations' activity. Avoiding petty tutelage, developing the activeness of the Komsomol members themselves -- that is the task of our party organizations.

The consolidation of party discipline is the primary organizations' daily concern. It is to their credit that in their overwhelming majority Communists conscientiously observe the statutory norms, selflessly serve public interests, and behave modestly cases where party members, including leaders, allow abuses and disgrace the title of communist by their conduct.

The primary party organizations must keep strict watch to ensure that these violations receive a proper assessment. Consistent principledness and uncompromising exactingness in everything which affects our party's honor and prestige are an essential condition for further enhancing the Communists' vanguard role on all sectors of communist building.

III.

Comrades!

Our party is distinguished by the inextricable unity of word and deed, persistence in achieving the set goals and the ability consistently to implement its political line. The CPSU Central Committee attaches great significance to the assertion of a Leninist work style in all links and to enhancing the cadres' discipline and responsibility. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November plenum direct us toward this.

The high demands made on style affect all organizations -- state, economic trade union and so forth. But above all it is a case of the party organs. After all, comrades, it is clear that the party organizations will only be able to really head the masses' struggle for the introduction of order to the national economy and for the effectiveness and quality of labor when the quality of their work is improved.

With regard to the primary party organizations that means:

First, actually ensuring the unity of organizational and ideological educational work and a consistently political approach toward the solution of economic and social questions.

Our party's experience and entire practice convinces us that ideological political work which is not backed up by organizational work is ineffective, while organizational work divorced from ideological work is as a rule lacking in content;

Second, it means a resolute turn toward the organization of the unconditional execution of the decision made the intensification of control, and the heightening of the demand on cadres for the matter in hand;

Third, focusing the efforts and attention of the primary and shop party organizations and party groups on living work with people and the further consolidation of the party's links with the masses;

Fourth, the enhancement of efficiency and precision in work and the eradication of formalism and red tape;

Fifth, the intensification of party influence on the style of work of economic leaders and trade union, Komsomol and other public organizations.

We have many primary party organizations which work purposefully, with a view to the long term, and seek to put all the labor collectives' reserves and potential into operation. They are distinguished by the ability to organize the Communists' work and through the power of example and persuasion to raise the workers to resolve the tasks facing them.

The party organizations' mobilizing influence is particularly important when the collective is disrupted. In this connection I shall cite one example. Some 4 years ago the Khalinga Kolkhoz was one of the lagging ones in Pyarnuskiy Rayon, Estonian SSR. This was explained by the weak leadership. The kolkhoz party organization, having exhausted the opportunities for influencing the chairman, raised the question of his dismissal. The new chairman vigorously set about introducing order and increased the exactingness displayed toward people, which pleased far from everybody. At a party meeting the Communists supported the chairman's enterprising work and his desire to improve management and strengthen discipline. The party organization persuaded the kolkhoz members of the necessity of the steps taken and matters rapidly made headway. The kolkhoz is now one of the republic's leading ones.

Unfortunately, it does happen that a party organization fails to show itself in a militant manner and does not have its own face, as they say. When you look the work seems to be making headway, party meetings and party bureau sessions are held on time, documents are kept in order, there are decisions on all questions and measures are drawn up. At the same time the enterprise does not fulfill the plan, thriftlessness is allowed and instances of drunkenness and other violations are frequent. What can be said of such a party organization? Probably only one thing -- it is working largely to no purpose.

The ways of enhancing the party organizations' militancy and the fruitfulness of their work are diverse, and they are known. One way is to enhance the role of the elected party aktiv. It is the aktiv which sets the tone in work and in the implementation of Lenin's principle of the collectiveness of party leadership. With every passing year the elected aktiv increases and its political and professional standard improves. A total of 4.65 million people, the most authoritative and influential Communists in their collectives, have been elected secretaries and party group organizers to party committees and party bureaus. Of these about 40 percent are workers and kolkhoz members. That is an enormous organizing force and it should operate at full capacity, so to speak, which largely depends on the style of work of the party committees and bureaus of the primary party organizations and their secretaries.

Recently new collegiate forms in the party organizations' activity have been developing increasingly. Expanded party committees are being created at the largest of them. Party organization secretaries' councils have become widespread. We must ensure that the collegiate organs work in a specific way and do not replace real business with talk and endless sessions. Collegiality must always be combined with personal responsibility.

As you recall, the 26th CPSU Congress pointed to the important role of party meetings, which should discuss profoundly and seriously all urgent questions. The practice of holding meetings has been enriched over these years. They discuss more frequently the enhancement of the Communists' responsibility for the state of affairs in the collectives, the development of their activeness, and the consolidation of discipline. This has a positive effect on the effectiveness of party work. The party organizations are called on to continue to improve the standard of meetings and to resolutely eliminate excessive organizational measures and unnecessary regulations. It is important that the party meetings should take place in an atmosphere of the frank exchange of opinions, criticism and self-criticism and should be of a constructive nature. Attention must be drawn to the best preparation of open party meetings. And, of course, party meetings, like other public events, should not be held during working hours.

Work on the improvement of style is performed at all levels in the party. Here too interesting experience is being accumulated. The Tomsk Oblast party organization, for instance, has been able to organize matters in such a way that the number of sessions and conferences has been almost halved. Considerable steps in this direction have been taken by the Stavropol Kraykom and the Leningrad, Moscow and Rostov Obkoms. Summonses for leading workers and specialists to the party and soviet organs have been restricted locally.

The number of decisions is being reduced substantially. For instance, the Ukrainian CP Central Committee has decreed that new resolutions be taken only on really urgent, major issues and only after the previous decision has been fulfilled. The Kazakhstan CP Central Committee is taking effective steps to reduce the stream of papers going out to local areas from the organs of economic management. The Armenian CP Central Committee has almost halved the number of information messages requested from party gorkoms and raykoms. All this produces an undoubted benefit and makes it possible to reallocate time in favor of live organizational work directly on the spot. Many questions have begun to be resolved more promptly, within the working procedure. The cadres' responsibility has been enhanced.

It should be noted that the reserves here are still far from exhausted. The steps which are being taken to reduce the number of sessions and conferences and the flow of papers are not always accompanied by an increase in work efficiency. Effective monitoring and verification of execution are not always ensured. Sometimes, when there is no special need, numerous commissions and headquarters are created for individual questions, which frequently diminishes the workers' personal responsibility for the matter assigned. The struggle against departmentalism and localistic tendencies is not being waged resolutely enough.

The further improvement of work style is a matter for all party organizations. High demands are made on our cadres in the light of this task. As a rule our workers are trained and qualified. And now, comrades, the success of the matter everywhere and in everything is resolved by the cadres' responsibility and their creative activeness. The formation of these qualities is an importance task of the primary party organizations and all party committees. They also should constantly keep sight of the selection and placement of workers. It must be a rule that the transfer of cadres and promotion to leading posts should be effected unfailingly with a consideration of the opinion of the party organization and collective. The primary party organization has an opportunity to exert decisive influence on the formation of middle-echelon cadres, foremen and team leaders. It is necessary to perform painstaking work with people, to seek out and raise able, talented organizers from among the Communists and non-party people.

As is well known, V.I. Lenin considered the most important task to be "the practicality and efficiency of organizational work." The party is seeking to ensure that the primary organizations' activity always accords with these demands.

A consistently asserted Leninist style in work assures the party organizations a reliable link with the masses and helps to raise creative activeness and to develop the working people's initiative and independence.

IV.

Comrades!

The primary party organizations' successful work is largely determined by leadership from the higher-ranking party organs. The link here is a two-way one. It helps the party organizations to perform work within the mainstream of overall policy and to structure it with an understanding of the tasks which are being resolved centrally and locally. In turn, the leading organs' activity is enriched by the experience of the party masses and is inconceivable without firm reliance on the primary organizations.

In this connection I should like to voice several ideas on the nature of leadership of the primary party organizations. This leadership organically combines democracy with centralism, the initiative and creativity of the party masses with the precise organization of execution and strict control. This leadership has nothing in common with peremptoriness and petty interference.

The party Central Committee attaches great importance to the implementation of ties with the primary party organizations. It resolves the fundamental questions of their organizational structure and activity, constantly informs the lower echelons of its work, and attentively studies and considers the Communists' opinions and suggestions. On the basis of the results of reports and elections and other general party and political campaigns, special resolutions are adopted and instructions are issued to ministries and departments for the fulfillment of local suggestions and comments.

The party organizations and labor collectives welcome with approval the fact that the Central Committee consults them before making important decisions.

Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's meeting with the Moscow machine tool building workers during which there was a discussion of the urgent questions of our activity and the enhancement of the labor collective's activeness in fulfilling the tasks facing us generated a big response in the party and country. This meeting is an instructive example of liaising with the masses.

The Central Committee engages constantly in generalizing the primary organizations' experience. Since the CPSU Central Committee November plenum alone, there has been an all-around discussion, in the light of the plenum's decisions, of the activity of the party organizations of the Put K KOMMUNISMU Kolkhoz, Fedorovskiy Rayon, Kustanay Oblast, the Dneproshina production association, and the Belorussian Yanka Kupala state academy theater. The Central Committee resolutions adopted on the basis of these reports have resounded throughout the party and provided a direction in the work of the lower party echelons, in industry, agriculture and the cultural sphere.

Take as an example the document on the Put K KOMMUNIZMU Kolkhoz. It is aimed at intensifying party-political influence on the course of the fulfillment of the Food Program and provides a guideline for all production party organizations in the countryside in their activity in using agricultural production reserves under the conditions of agro-industrial associations. In the kolkhoz, sovkhoz and interfarm enterprise party organizations, of which there are over 50,000, the Central Committee resolution has been discussed at party meetings and specialists' conferences.

In the republics, krays and oblasts conference-seminars of rural party organization secretaries have been held. In accordance with CPSU Central Committee instructions, the party, scientific, and educational establishments and mass media are performing specific work.

I have dwelled in detail on this example in order to emphasize that the hearing of reports is an important means of improving work. The preparation and discussion of the primary organizations' reports in the higher-ranking party organ helps them to transfer political directives to the plane of practical deeds.

The union republic communist party central committees and the party kraykoms and obkoms are improving work with the primary party organizations. Many of them have recently examined these questions at plenums and bureaus. Oblast and republican conferences of primary party organization secretaries are of great benefit. Plainly, the comrades will discuss all this at our conference.

The experience accumulated in Georgia is of undoubted interest. The republican communist party central committee elaborated a year ago and is now implementing a comprehensive plan of measures through 1985 for enhancing the militancy of the grassroots party echelons. A great deal of attention is paid here to the propaganda of positive experience and the training of party organization secretaries on its basis. The methods room of party and soviet building is used for this. A cycle of television programs on the authority of the primary party organization has been prepared and screened. The Georgian CP Central Committee is undertaking a very worthwhile and important matter.

At the same time individual party committees are not concerned sufficiently with the primary organizations, do not investigate their work in depth, and for years on end fail to raise the lower echelons' reports for discussion. This attitude does not benefit the primary organizations and it impoverishes the work of the party committees themselves.

In the leadership of the primary party organizations a paramount role belongs to the party gorkoms and raykoms, which are closest to them. We have 4,246 raykoms and gorkoms without rayon divisions. In the past 12 years about 400 party committees have been newly formed at this level mainly in the regions of Siberia, Kazakhstan and Central Asia. The gorkom and raykom apparatus is being strengthened and swelled with skilled forces. Last year agricultural sections were created in rural raykoms.

The party committee must reach every primary party organization, see clearly the situation in the labor collectives, know the cadres, help them to build their work better, and generalize and disseminate leading experience. Correct action is being taken by those party raykoms and gorkoms which, in resolving any economic policy task, turn first of all to the lower echelons and through them organize the working people, monitor the cadres' work and provide the Communists with objective information.

The maintenance of firm, businesslike ties with the primary organizations must be the norm for every party committee. Yet some party workers rarely visit the organizations and when they do visit them find no opportunity to talk with the Communists and only familiarize themselves with business in a general way, as they say. Individual comrades sometimes lose their taste for communicating with the working people and are flustered when they are among people and are asked questions. Cadres and the aktiv must be taught the ability to work among the masses.

Separate mention must be made of the party committee instructors. They are rightly called central figures in the party apparatus. Their composition is improving. Almost 86 percent of raykom and gorkom instructors now have higher education, mainly engineering and technical or agricultural education. However, we must consider the fact that among the raykom instructors there are many young people who have only recently begun working in the party apparatus. We must think of improving their training and helping them more in mastering the skills of party work.

The standard of the primary organizations' activity depends primarily on their secretaries. The most authoritative and influential party members are elected to this work. Over 60 percent of secretaries have higher education. Their numbers have begun to include more workers, kolkhoz members and specialists. And that is a very good thing. In their majority they are real pioneers, selfless people wholeheartedly devoted to the cause of the party, skillful organizers capable of ensuring the party collectives' harmonious work.

For 10 years now Nina Pavlovna Novichkova has headed the Kirsanovskiy Sovkhoz party organization, Omsk Oblast. She was born here and has worked as a teacher and school director. She is a profoundly party-minded, principled person who knows how to lead people. If she begins something, she sees it through to the end. She is distinguished by her cordiality and desire to live by her fellow villagers' concerns. And people are drawn to her, they turn to the secretary in their minutes of joy and when things are difficult. Under Nina Pavlovna's leadership the sovkhoz party organization has strengthened and its ranks have been swelled by 75 perople including 41 stockraisers, of whom 17 are milkmaids. Effective party influence is felt here on all sectors. And it is natural that this farm is developing successfully.

The CPSU Central Committee receives many letters from primary party organization secretaries sharing their thoughts on the role and place of the party organization secretary in the collective. The comrades write that the secretaries must be better supported, that their authority must be safeguarded, that not only should demands be made on them but that they should be encouraged for good work. These are correct ideas in all respects.

The question of the party organization secretary's relations with the economic leader frequently arises. It is clear that these relations should be built on a principled party basis. That is what happens in the majority of cases. When necessary the secretaries put the administrators right and do not go against their conscience when it is a case of eradicating shortcomings, especially abuses. At the same time there are instances of a different kind when secretaries give in to difficulties. Here the correct and consistent position of the party raykom or gorkom is particularly important.

Their regular study renders effective aid to the party organization secretaries. The permanent courses created under higher party schools and the union republic Communist Party Central Committees and kraykoms and gorkoms have given a good account of themselves. In the past 2 years over 14,000 secretaries on release and 65,000 not on release have undergone training here. Party aktiv schools and seminars have undergone training here. Party aktiv schools and seminars are operating everywhere under gorkoms and raykoms. In brief, much is being done here. At the same time we must continue to improve organizational forms of study and to make its content more profound.

The training of other categories of the party aktiv -- shop party organization secretaries, party group organizers and primary organization party committee and bureau members -- needs to be improved. This practice exists, it must be made universal.

The primary party organization's work is diverse and rich.

It deserves constant and profound study and attention on the party of our social sciences, publishing houses and mass propaganda organs. It should be noted that a considerable amount of work in this direction is being performed by the CPSU Central Committee Institute of Marixm-Leninism and Academy of Social Sciences, the newspaper PRAVDA, the journals KOMMUNIST and PARTIYNAYA ZHIZN, the Political Literature Publishing House and others. There has been an increase in the number of scientific works and dissertations on party building, useful publications on experience and interesting items on the life of the party organizations and the Communists. However, there are still many big and small problems here awaiting close examination by the scientists and the party journalists' militant pen. Good literature is needed aimed at the party organization secretaries, party group organizers and young Communists.

It is important to seek to ensure that research and publishing work is closely linked with life and helps our cadres and aktiv to operate at the level of modern requirements.

Comrades!

It is naturally impossible to reveal all the multifaceted activity of the primary organizations in a single report. The broad exchange of opinions and experience in our country will be continued at plenary sessions and in the sections of the conference. It seems to us that there should be a thorough and businesslike discussion.

It is important that the conference results become a practical contribution to the improvement of the primary party organizations' work in fulfilling the decisions of the 26th party congress and the tasks set in Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's speech at the CPSU Central Committee November plenum.

On that, comrades, allow me to conclude my speech and cordially thank you for your attention.

INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE FOR MARCH REVIEWED

PM201314 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 19 Apr 83 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Deliveries -- On Time"]

[Text] March "crowns" the first quarter. During this month industry as a whole increased production output and the targets for marketing output were exceeded by 2 percent. Labor productivity rose. In the Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems, the Ministry of Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood Processing Industry and the Ministry of Light Industry, it accounted for the total increase in production. A further step forward was taken in improving product quality: The State Quality Seal was awarded to 5,406 product types in March, bringing the total to 81,000.

The contribution by production frontrankers and innovators was most striking. V. Fesenko, spinning machine operator at the Volzhskiy Synthetic Fiber Plant, fulfilled her personal 5-year plan. High skill and organization in work and struggle for every minute of working time are what enabled her to extend her servicing zone to more than double the standard area.

Many other examples of high results being achieved as a result of individual and collective shock labor could be cited. And in all cases the attention of socialist competition participants centers on stepping up the regimes of economical use of fuel and energy and material resources, better utilization of machinery and the achievement of harmonious work in the collectives. The highest results in this competition have been achieved at enterprises of the following unionwide and union republic ministries and departments (the first column indicates the increase in production volume, the second labor productivity growth, and the third the plan fulfillment percentage in terms of the overall volume of output):

Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry:	113.4	109.7	104
Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry:	112.7	109.9	107
Ministry of Power Machine Building:	108.5	106.7	104
Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production:	108.2	106.4	103
Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry:	108.1	107.2	102
Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry:	107.0	106.6	103
Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production	106.2	104.4	102
Ministry of the Gas Industry:	106.0	104.8	103

The March sales plan was not fulfilled by two sectors -- the petrochemical and the light industries. Enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry were let down mainly by the railroad workers' failure to ship out finished output, and enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Light Industry are lagging behind because of the slow restructuring of production facilities for the output of goods in demand and because of difficulties in supplies of certain types of raw materials to them.

As regards other sectors, the steady work of power workers and oil and gas extraction workers must be noted: in March more electricity was produced and more oil (including gas condensate) and natural gas extracted than envisaged. Most enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, too, succeeded in fulfilling the monthly program -- they produced considerable quantities of rolled ferrous metals and steel pipes in excess of plan. Chemical industry workers exceeded the targets for the production of basic types of mineral fertilizers, chemical plant protection agents and microbiological protein for fodder purposes.

Among the machine building sectors, instrument makers and the majority of enterprises of the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building and the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production are distinguished by their smooth work. The latter exceeded the normative net output volume plan by almost 2 percent and marketed around R13 millions' worth of machinery for animal husbandry and fodder production, spare parts and consumer goods in excess of the target.

It is true that the associations and enterprises of the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production fulfilled the plan for deliveries by only 98.2 percent and failed to supply R10.6 millions' worth of ordered products. Some 41 collectives failed to meet their commitments in full. An analysis of the causes of failure to meet deliveries shows that a large share of the blame falls to the railroad workers, who failed to ensure the timely dispatch of finished products. Some collectives were let down by suppliers: the Volzhskiy Pipe Plant, the Saransk and Volzhskiy industrial rubber goods plants, the Vologda No 23 State Ball-Bearing Plant, the Vinnitsa No 18 State Ball-Bearing Plant and the Kharkov No 8 State Ball-Bearing Plant.

Enterprises producing cultural and consumer and household goods fulfilled the March plan on the whole and in some sectors even substantially exceeded it. Clocks and watches of all types, television and radio sets, washing machines and furniture, china and pottery, quality crockery and wallpaper were produced in excess of target and delivered to the trade network.

Enterprises in the food complex increased the output of food products. Many of them met the March program in full. More meat, animal and vegetable fats and dairy products than planned for the month were produced from state raw material resources. Combines of the Ministry of the Fish Industry exceeded the monthly target for the production of marketable alimentary fish products.

These and other achievements could well have been more pronounced. Unfortunately, the smooth work of competition participants was frequently disrupted by infringements of delivery discipline. In some sectors more than half the enterprises failed to meet deliveries in full and on time. Yet when we ask those who breach economic agreements for the causes of the failures to meet deliveries, in reply we get explanations which boil down to saying that the plan targets are not balanced with material and technical supplies.

Indeed, it does happen that supplier enterprises run short of metal once in a while, difficulties occur in the power supply or there are interruptions in the provision of transport facilities for shipping out finished output. But another point has also been noted: in approximately 30 out of every 100 cases the reason why customers refuse to pay for products is that the products fail to conform to the contract -- they are either of low quality or they are not what was ordered at all. And what is more, metal and power have been squandered to produce them and transport facilities have been used, in effect, to no purpose.

Stepping up responsibility for the accurate execution of planned deliveries and accepted orders is the main line of the struggle for a precise and smoothly functioning production rhythem. "Failure to meet product deliveries agreed under contract must be qualified as a serious breach of plan and state discipline," the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers' resolution on the question of observance of contract commitments points out. Party committees and economic organs must be consistently guided by this instruction. The economic performance of labor collectives and their leaders must be judged primarily by the way they meet deliveries and accepted orders. This must also be the paramount criterion in summing up competition results.

SIBERIAN SECTION OF GAS LINE ALMOST COMPLETE

LD191137 Moscow TASS in English 0930 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 19 TASS -- The construction of the thousand-kilometres-long Siberian section of the export-oriented gas pipeline Siberia-Western Europe is drawing to an end. It remains for the builders to weld 17 kilometres of pipes in this most complex part of the route, a TASS correspondent has been told at the USSR Ministry for the Construction of the Oil and Gas Industry Enterprises.

The progress of the construction of the entire gas pipeline in many respects depends on the Siberian section. Work there can be carried out only in winter when impassable marshy ground freezes over. Last winter came to Siberia two months later than usual, upsetting the schedule of work. However, the high professionalism, experience and good technical equipment have enabled the builders to make up for the lost time. Some building teams laid down up to 1.5 kilometres of pipes every day.

It is now ten-degree (centigrade) frosts in Siberia, which will give an opportunity to lay down the remaining kilometres of pipes before the spring-time slush comes. More than a third of the Siberian section is already undergoing tests. Builders who have completed their work move on to the construction of the Urengoy-Central Region gas pipeline which will run alongside the export-oriented gas pipeline in Siberia.

Eleven hundred kilometres of the pipeline are being tested all along the Siberia-Western Europe pipeline route. The construction of the 4,451-km gas trunkline is being built ahead of schedule. Forty two hundred kilometres of pipes have been welded and 4,060 km of pipes have already been laid into the trenches.

PRAVDA ANNOUNCES RETAIL PRICE CUTS

PM181557 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 83 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "At the USSR State Committee for Prices"]

[Text] The USSR State Committee for Prices, in accordance with directions from the USSR Council of Ministers on reducing the state retail prices of individual consumer goods, has approved new price lists which come into operation 25 April 1983.

These price lists provide for reductions in retail prices as follows:

For astrakhan collars by 20 percent on average, and for mink collars by 35 percent. The retail prices of women's winter coats with mink collars are correspondingly reduced by 21 percent and of men's coats with astrakhan collars by 7 percent on average; for pure wool prints, by 40 percent on average; for some types of silk bedspreads and pillowcases, by 40 percent on average.

The total value of the retail price reductions calculated on an annual basis will be 41.4 billion.

MOLDAVIAN FOOD INDUSTRY SCORED, MINISTER PUNISHED

LD151833 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Summary From Poor Reception] Commentator Sergey Zheleznyak says that people's control officials in Moldavia examined the republic's Ministry of Food Industry and found that many collectives were not meeting agreed targets and that product quality was not as high as it should be. The enquiry found that workshirking, idleness and absenteeism tolerated by the administration caused more than 21,000 man-days to be lost at the ministry's enterprises last year alone. This is a modest estimate. During this time more than R3 million worth of goods could have been produced.

However, instead of campaigning tirelessly against discipline breakers, the heads of workshops, plants and units tried to create the appearance that all was well. During a check at a Kishinev plant one man in five was not at his post in one workshop, and one man in three at another. Labor discipline does not just mean getting to work on time; it means a conscientious approach to work. Workers were found to be arriving on time, but already drunk in the morning. They drank during the day, but still got paid. Although managers instituted overtime, this led to more losses. Last year the Moldavian Ministry of Industry paid R44,000 for idle periods and overtime. Damage to machinery also increased.

The people's control punished those responsible. Managers of some enterprises were fired and others were reprimanded. Chekoy, Moldavian minister of food industry, was also severely punished.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 20-21 APRIL

LD220522 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 20-21 April. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

20 April

Sowing begins in Udmurtiya where farmers intend to produce more than one million tons of grain crops. (0400 GMT)

Spring field work has begun in Omsk Oblast. (0600 GMT)

This spring early crops are to be sown on 28.5 hectares in Kazakhastan; work is now in progress on the second million hectares. The plan for sowing wheat and barley has already been overfulfilled in Dzhambul Oblast. Sugar beet sowing has been completed in the southern oblasts, where the sowing of corn, cotton, and vegetables is in full swing. Potato planting has begun in Alma Ata, Chimkent, and other oblasts. Selective field work has begun in the northern virgin-land oblasts. Harrowing is in progress in Kustanay, Kokchetav, and Tselinograd Oblasts. (1000 GMT)

Moisture retention and preparation of soil for spring sowing has begun on the virgin lands of Kazakhstan and in the southern Urals. Spring barely has already begun to sprout in the North Caucasus, Moldavia, and in the southern Ukraine. The rainfall which has occurred has significantly improved the conditions for the development of shoots. Sowing of millet is taking place throughout the south. Mass planting of corn for grain is underway. Sowing of sunflowers has ended in Georgia and is continuing successfully in the Ukraine, Moldavia, and in the southern RSFSR. Sowing has come to an end on the sugar plantations of Moldavia, Kirghizia, and the North Caucasus, and the Ukrainian sugar beet growers are nearing the end of their sowing operations. Uzbekistan and Turkmenia have overfulfilled their plans for the sowing of fine-fiber cotton varieties; around 3 million hectares have been planted with this crop throughout the country. The harvest of cucumbers, tomatoes, and greens under glass is continuing. Harvesting of alfalfa has begun in Tajikistan and the cutting of rape is taking place in the other Central Asian and Transcaucasian republics; it is being immediately despatched to farms. Fodder granules are also being manufactured. The weather is sunny and warm in Altay and early harrowing has been done on 500,000 hectares. Water from the Krasnodar reservoir was today sent to rice paddies along the river Kuban. Rice will occupy about 200,000 hectares in the kray this year. More than 2,000 million cubic meter of water has been accumulated in the reservoir. (1100 GMT)

In Uzbekistan, corn has been sown on 300,000 hectares. The sowing rate is much faster than last year. Shoots are coming through in the earliest-sown areas. The Uzbek corn target for the year is 2.5 million tons and many teams are aiming for a yield of 100 and more quintals per hectare. Sugar beet sowing was completed in Kazakhstan today. An area of over 71,000 hectares was sown in good time. Shoots are coming through in most places. (1300 GMT)

Mass potato planting has begun in the southern oblasts of Belorussia. In Brest Oblast it will occupy 50,000 hectares. The sowing of grain crops and pulse crops is also taking place in all oblasts; one-third of the planned area has been sown. Selective sowing of corn is taking place and around 250,000 hectares will be planted this year. Flax sowing is also taking place. (1330 GMT)

21 April

Saratov Oblast: Farms of all rayons engaged in the sowing of grain crops, oats, barley, sunflower and other crops have already been sown on 500,000 hectares. Tambov Oblast: Wheat, barley and oats have been sown in an area of almost 900,000 hectares. This work was done in a matter of days. Mari Nonchernozem Zone has begun sowing. First hay harvesting has begun in the south Uzbekistan. It is planned to get no less than 200 quintals of hay from each hectare this year. (0600 GMT)

Farmers in southern rayons of Orenburg Oblast have commenced sowing; grain crops are to be sown on 3.8 million hectares. (0800 GMT)

Mass sowing of flax has begun in Belorussia. About 230,000 hectares have been allocated for the crop in the republic. Mechanized sowing of sunflower has been completed in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast. The oblast produces more sunflower than any other oblast in the Ukraine. Altogether 215,000 hectares have been sown for sunflower in the oblast. (1100 GMT)

Mass planting of corn is underway in Kirghizia. Spring planting of forests has begun in the Altay. This spring nearly 20,000 hectares will be planted with young trees, including 4,000 hectares of cedars in the Altay region. (1100 GMT)

Sowing has started on the Shirak plateau, Armenia. Kavkaz and Avrora varieties of wheat, which are well-suited to high altitudes, are being sown. More than 70,000 hectares are to be sown to spring grain crops in the republic this year. (1500 GMT)

Three million hectares have been sown for cotton in the republics of Central Asia and Azerbaijan. (1530 GMT)

USSR CSA FIGURES ON SPRING SOWING PROGRESS

Country Overview

LD202351 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] Field work is widely under way in the country. Workers in the countryside and the industries serving them are striving to make a worthy contribution to implementing the Food Program and are laying a firm foundation for a big harvest. According to USSR Central Statistical Administration figures on 18 April, the sowing of early crops has been carried out on an area of 33.8 million hectares. Grain and leguminous crops, except corn, are sown on an area of more than 18 million hectares. Sowing of wheat, barley, millet, buckwheat, and rice is under way. Many collectives have gone over to working by contracting, with payment according to final results.

Agriculture Ministry Official

LD220606 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2040 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpt] On the country's fields: a commentary by Yuriy Alekseyevich Nikitin, deputy chief of the Main Directorate of Grain Crops at the Ministry of Agriculture [title as heard]:

[Nikitin] Rate of sowing this year is high. According to figures from the USSR CSA, through 18 April, spring crops had been sown on 34 million hectares in the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes, including grain and bean crops -- not counting corn -- on 18 million hectares. Over the past week, spring crops have been laid out on an area exceeding 10 million hectares.

Sowing of grain crops is presently in progress in all union republics except the Estonian SSR; in 41 oblasts, krays, and autonomous republics in the Russian Federation; in 25 oblasts in the Ukraine; and in 8 oblasts in Kazakhstan. Mass sowing of early grain crops is continuing on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in many oblasts in the central area and the mid-Volga area. Sowing has begun in recent days on farms in Mari ASSR, Mordva, Bashkiria, Pskov, Ivanovo, Kirov, Saratov, Uralsk, Aktyubinsk Oblast, and a number of others. About half of the planned areas has now been sown with bean crops.

Farms in southern areas of the country have now embarked on sowing groat crops -- buckwheat and millet. Rice-growers in Uzbekistan, Crimea, and Kuban have also begun sowing. The rate of sowing of corn for grain is high this year. Over the past week alone, it has been sown on almost 900,000 hectares. Two-thirds of the planned area has already been sown with sugar beet. Sowing of this crop has been completed by kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Moldavia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, and North Caucasus. Shoots have now appeared on those areas sown early.

Farms are carrying out in an organized way the presprouting and postsprouting harrowing on wide areas, and protecting sown areas from pests. Kilkhozes and sovkhozes in southern areas have begun filling in and evening out the density of planted areas. Cotton has been laid out on 2.8 million hectares and the plan for sowing of especially valuable fine-fibre varieties has been overfulfilled. Planting of potatoes and sowing of vegetables and fodder crops are ahead of the rates achieved last year. Special attention is being devoted to extending areas sown to high-protein pulses -- alfalfa, sainfoin, and rape. These will this year be sown on an area 1.5 million hectares larger than last year. Everywhere, areas sown with perennial grasses are being tended, as are natural fodder pastures.

Progress in Kolkhozes, Sovkhozes

LD192325 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2005 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Field work is in full swing on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Trans-Urals and West Siberia. At the moment, soil-tilling units are going out into the fields in Kurgan, Omsk, and Novosibirsk Oblasts and Altay Kray. Here, such an important agrotechnical step as moisture retention is under way. In the Far East region, the conduct of sowing is being hampered by poor weather. Rain is impeding spring sowing in Maritime Kray and Amur Oblasts. Work here is mainly under way on fields allocated to grain crops. In the whole of the RSFSR, according to the latest figures from the republican Central Statistical Administration, various spring crops occupy about one-sixth of the area allocated to them. In the European part of the republic's territory early spring has enabled work to be carried out considerably more rapidly than in previous years. Many farms of the North Caucasus have already completed sowing of late cultivated crops. Mass sowing is also under way in the center of the Nonchernozem Zone.

Additional Information

LD210208 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] The USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported on the progress in sowing at kolkhozes and sovkhozes. According to these figures, various early crops have been sown on almost 34 million hectares. By comparison with previous years, sowing is taking place earlier. Today units are already working in the fields of all fifteen union republics. In the Baltic area and the central regions of Russia, machine operators are sowing early grain crops.

In many regions of the North Caucasus even the sowing of later cultivated crops is coming to an end. In the southern Volga, in the Kuban, and in a number of other places they are sowing groats, millet, and rice. Teams working in the contracting method are sowing sugar beet at exceptionally quick rates in Kursk and Belgorod Oblasts. These collectives have taken entirely upon themselves the cultivation of this labor-intensive crop. In the Central Asian republics a considerable volume of work has been done in the sowing of cotton. A majority of farms have already over-fulfilled the plan for sowing fine-fiber varieties.

Data on Uzbekistan

LD211358 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Sowing of cotton is drawing to a close in Uzbekistan. This year nearly 2 million hectares have been allocated in the republic for the main agricultural crop. In comparison with last year, the area for thin-fiber cotton has been significantly increased.

Kolkhoz workers in the south of Orenburg Oblast have brought their sowing machines to the fields. In total, grain crops will be sown in Orenburg Oblast on an area of nearly 4 million hectares. In the structure of tilled fields, scientists recommendations concerning the use of a zonal farming system have been taken into account.

According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration, spring sowing has been undertaken by all union republics. By 18 April early crops were sown on an area of nearly 40 million [figure as heard] hectares, which is considerably more than at the same time last year.

Data on RSFSR

LD200938 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] Mass sowing is underway over a considerable part of the RSFSR. In all 12.7 million hectares have been sown in the republic with assorted spring crops according to Central Statistical Administration data. Here is a roundup of the work being done in the major agricultural areas:

In the North Caucasus sugar beet sowing is in its closing stages. This crop has been sown considerably quicker than last year. To date, sowing has almost been completed on sugar beet fields in Krasnodar Kray. A considerable proportion of sunflower seed and corn for grain sowing has also been carried out in the North Caucasus. Potatoes have been planted on 80 percent of the fields.

In the lower Volga kolkhozes and sovkhozes have started rice sowing. Sowing machines are out on the rice fields in Astrakhan Oblast and the Kalmyk ASSR. Sowing of millet is also underway.

In the Central-Chernozem Zone the main work is on the sugar beet fields. Farms in Belgorod and Kursk Oblasts are carrying out the work with exemplary organization. To date, sugar beets have been sown on a total of 43 percent of the area allocated to it in the republic. This is almost three times more than was sown at the beginning of the third 10 days in April of last year.

In the Nonchernozem Zone mass grain sowing is underway on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the south of this region. Sowing has started in Kirovsk and Novgorod Oblasts. Early potato planting is also underway in the centre of the Nonchernozem Zone.

RSFSR CSA REPORT ON SPRING FIELD WORK PROGRESS

LD192322 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] The RSFSR Central Statistical Department today reported on the course of spring field work in the republic. Commenting on this, Stepan Filipovich Borshch, chief of the Main Administration of Crops of the RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture, noted that the rain which recently fell in a number of southern regions of the republic allowed the spring crop shoots to develop good roots. In the past week, the sowing rate was the highest for mid-April compared with all preceding years. About 13 million hectares has been sown to various crops which is about one-sixth of the total sowing area. Mass sowing is under way now in Bryansk; Orel, and Ryazan Oblasts. In the Nonchernozem Zone, there has been a considerable increase in the area to be sown to pulse crops. A larger area than last year has been allocated for these crops in many farms of the Central-Chernozem Zone, and also in the North Caucasus. Sowing of groats has begun in the republic's southern zone in the past few days. Sowing units have gone out onto the rice paddies in Astrakhan and Rostov Oblasts, in Kalmykia and in Krasnodar kray. Sugar beet sowing has been completed early in the Kuban. This work is proceeding rapidly in Belgorod and Kursk Oblasts; brigade contracting is being used extensively here for its cultivation.

CPSU CENCOM AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE VIEWED

PM210920 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Food Program Is a Matter for All the People"]

[Text] A conference of union republic communist party central committee and party kraykom and obkom first secretaries has been held at the CPSU Central Committee to examine several practical questions of the development of agriculture and the implementation of the Food Program. Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, delivered a major speech at the conference.

In accordance with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums and subsequent party and government resolutions, favorable economic conditions have been created for implementing the tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress and the country's Food Program. Production and manufacturing discipline is increasing, agriculture's links with other sectors of the agroindustrial complex are being strengthened, and its collaboration with them is being improved. The workers in this sphere of the economy are directing their efforts toward ensuring the steadier buildup of food resources and the attainment of good end results.

However, in a number of republics, krays, and oblasts there are serious shortcomings and blunders in using production potential, land and manpower. There are still many farms which lag behind the 5-year plan targets in terms of growth rates for the production of grain, sugar beet, meat, milk, and other produce. The unfavorable weather of recent years is also having an effect. But some people are seeking and finding ways of overcoming the difficulties, while others try to use them to justify their own blunders. Questions of the social restructuring of the copuntryside are still being resolved only slowly.

With a view to accelerating agricultural development and resolving the food problem, a great deal has to be done. Above all it is necessary to ensure stability in arable farming and considerably raise its productivity. To obtain good harvests it is essential to switch to zonal systems and in the next year or two, to complete the assimilation of crop rotation, and extensively introduce industrial manufacturing methods and effective soil cultivation methods.

In stockraising the main task is further intensification, an all-around increase in livestock and poultry productivity, and higher output of meat, milk, and eggs.

A concern of paramount importance is to make effective use of the material and technical base. Since the CPSU Central Committee March (1965) plenum, fixed capital in agriculture has quadrupled, the power-labor ration and mineral fertilizer supplies have more than trebled, and the area of reclaimed land has expanded 70 percent. A program has been outlined for the countryside's further provision with highly productive equipment. But even the equipment which the farms possess right now makes it possible to achieve considerably better results. However, these opportunities are not being fully used: some machines have no one specifically responsible for them, the base for repair and storage of mechanical equipment is being created too slowly, and a large number of machines are written off prematurely.

To re-resolve the set tasks more successfully it is necessary primarily to supply the countryside with permanent cadres. To this end considerably more housing, schools, vocational, and technical colleges, and other cultural and consumer service projects must be constructed. Enormous capital investments have been earmarked for the purpose, and the capacities of urban construction organizations are now available. It is now a matter of local party and soviet organ's initiative and ability to organize the implementation of what has been planned.

Under present conditions, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov noted in his speech at the conference, particular significance attaches to the question of work with kolkhoz and sovkhoz leading cadres. They must constantly expand their purview and specialized knowledge. We cannot accept the way many oblasts allow high cadre turnover and supplant educational work by bureaucratic administration. The CPSU Central Committee and the government have adopted a resolution on enhancing the role and responsibility of leading cadres in the countryside. Its fulfillment must be constantly monitored by the party organizations.

A major role in implementing the tasks stemming from the CPSU Central Committee plenum decisions and the Food Program is assigned to the new management organs -- the agroindustrial associations. Party committees must take care to ensure that they gain strength as rapidly and resolve basic issues as promptly as possible. Ensuring the harmonious and coordinated action by all their subdivisions connected with agriculture, the associations must support and encourage useful initiatives and enterprise on the part of kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders and specialists. It is essential to resolutely improve economic work, and develop and strengthen autonomous financing by every means.

The tasks facing agriculture also sharply increase the demands made on republic, kray, and oblast party organizations and on the further improvement of the operating style and methods. Instead of making better use of internal reserves and opportunities, some workers seek to shift many of their concerns onto the state's shoulders. For instance, they ask for grain fodder to be allocated and at the same time show little concern about the production of coarse and succulent fodder. This also applies to seed, although there are opportunities everywhere for growing it. The desire to construct stockraising complexes using imported fodder has not been eradicated. Fuller use must be made of local resources for improving food supplies to the population.

This year is the determining one for the 5-year plan as a whole. We must obtain the planned harvest of grain, fodder, industrial, and other crops and reinforce the positive advances outlined in stockraising. Field work has been widely launched in the country. The most important practical task in the countryside is its successful implementation and the creation of a reliable foundation for the harvest.

The words of the CPSU Central Committee May Day slogans call Communists and all workers of the countryside to new achievements:

"Workers in the agroindustrial complex! Ensure that the country is reliably provided with food and agricultural raw materials.

"The implementation of the Food Program is a nationwide concern!"

'TEAM CONTRACT' SYSTEM IN CROP FARMING DISCUSSED

LD182318 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 18 Apr 83

[From the Vremya newscast: Report by correspondent L. Biryuk]

[Text] All mechanized kolkhoz and sovkhoz detachments in Kominternovskiy Rayon of Odessa Oblast which grow grain crops and industrial crops have become financially autonomous.

The rayon's first financially autonomous detachment was set up some years ago at the 20th CPSU Congress kolkhoz. At that time, 28 machine operators headed by (Nikolay Serafimovich Dovbenko) concluded the first contract with the management. They undertook to grow wheat, barley, peas, millet, corn, and sunflower on 3,800 hectares. Even in the first year the results of their work exceeded all expectations. The detachment obtained higher yields; their losses were smaller. It happens that this year's sowing has been carried out in a very organized fashion in the rayon. Field work was completed in 96 hours. They rightly feel here that this is the first result of the detachments' work. Kominternovskiy Rayon now has 24 detachments. Nevertheless the introduction of team contracting is proceeding only slowly. What is holding it up?

[Begin recording of interview with I.Y. Sichuk, chairman of the rayispolkom] I would say that several factors are holding it up. First of all, we need to find enthusiasts, to find people -- heads of mechanized detachments -- who realize the prospects for this form of work organizations. Secondly, I think that insufficient understanding by individual farm managers of the future of this question is a great obstacle. Why? Because this form of work organization also changes to some extent the form and style of work of the manger himself. Many managers have become accustomed to interfere and to switch around. For example, a manager might decide he needs to transfer a tractor to another sector or to other work, and so on. Under team contracting this cannot be done. Under this sytem there is, in our view, a man in charge who concludes a contract of this kind with the management or the administration of a kolkhoz or with the board of a sovkhoz -- and he bears personal responsibility for the fate of that bread-grain. Therefore, one should not get in his way. Instead one should assist and support him.

We are not introducing this form of work organization in grain farming alone. We plan to adopt it for fodder production as early as this year. We have certain ideas and calculations for adopting this form of work organization in animal husbandry. In due course this will require -- indeed it is already requiring -- an improvement in the style of the manager himself. I believe that if we convert this entire branch to team contracting, the manager will still have to carry out the most complex functions. He will have to think, to think about how to improve this form of organization. He will have to go further. He will have to think about how agricultural production can be run more efficiently and competently, as a result of applying science and practical achievements and so on, than we are running it today. That is the most complex factor, the one that is causing the most delay, I think. [end recording]

SOYUZ T-8, SALYUT-7 DOCKING CANCELED 22 APRIL

Cosmonauts To Return

LD220257 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0240 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Flight Control Center, 22 Apr (TASS) -- The second working day for Cosmonauts Titov, Strekalov, and Serebrov began on 21 April at 0900 hours Moscow time. In accordance with the flight program, corrections to the spacecraft's orbit were made for the purpose of a rendezvous with the station, and a check on the functioning of the spacecraft's onboard systems was carried out. Because of deviations from the planned rendezvous program, the docking of the Soyuz T-8 craft with the Salyut-7 orbital station was canceled.

Cosmonauts Titov, Strekalov and Serebrov have begun preparations for their return to earth.

Landing Noted

LD221424 Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- The crew of the "Soyuz T-8" spacecraft, Cosmonauts Vladimir Titov, Gennadiy Strekalov, and Aleksandr Serebrov, returned to earth.

The descent vehicle of the "Soyuz T-8" spacecraft landed in the planned region of the Soviet Union's territory 29 kilometres northeast of the city of Arkalyk at 1729 Moscow time on April 22, 1983.

Before the descent the cosmonauts carried out the orientation of the spacecraft and later consecutively separated the orbital module, activated the descent engine, and separated the descent vehicle from the instrument and plant module.

Following the controllable descent in the atmosphere a parachute system was put into operation. Just before the touch-down the soft landing engines went into action, and the descent vehicle landed smoothly.

Cosmonauts Titov, Strekalov and Serebrov feel well.

BRIEFS

UZBEKS ATTEND MEDICAL CONGRESS -- Uzbek medical experts have attended an international medical congress in Moscow. The congress was attended by medical experts from 67 countries around the world. [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 14 Apr 83 GF]

UZBEK MEDICAL AWARDS -- A meeting has been held at the Tashkent Medical Institute to award the title of scientist (?to a number of experts from) Bangladesh. According to a decision of the institute's scientific committee, the title has been awarded to them. The Tashkent Medical Institute, together with other Soviet university boarding houses, is greatly contributing toward the training of cadres from developing countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. [Excerpt] [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 13 Apr 83 GF]